

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF
NORTH CAROLINA,
A. F. & A. M.

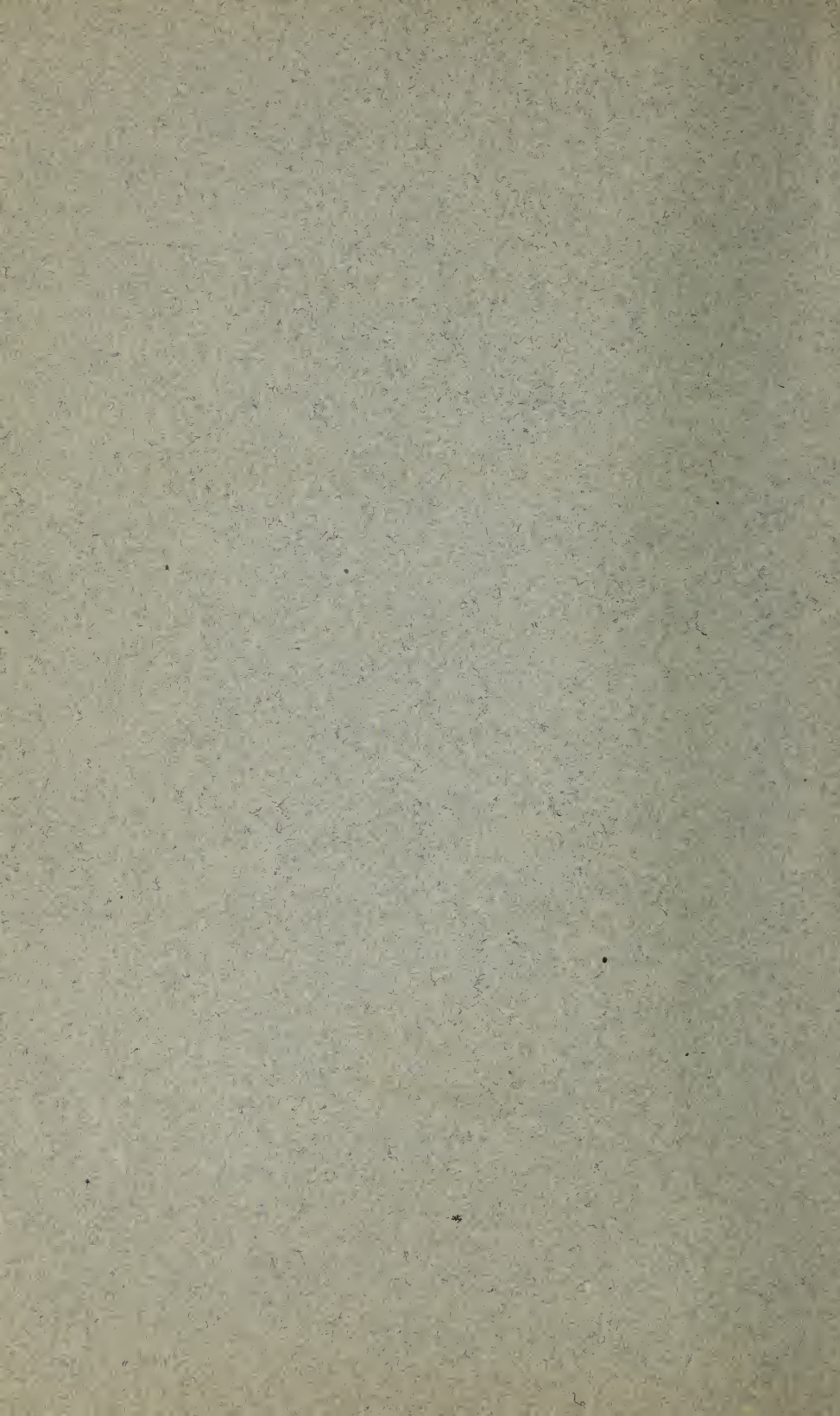
December 2, 3 and 4, 1879.

NINETY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Grand Master orders that Masters cause these Proceedings to be read before their respective Lodges at such time as may be most convenient, as required by Sec. 2, Article XX (page 42), of the Code.

The next Annual Communication will be held in the City of Raleigh, commencing on Tuesday evening, December 7th, 1880, at 7½ o'clock.

By regulation, these Proceedings will be furnished to Subordinate Lodges at 50 cents for each copy over three to which they are entitled, postage added. Individual Masons can obtain them at the same price for each copy, postage added.



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF
ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF
NORTH CAROLINA.

NINETY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

AT RALEIGH,

DECEMBER 2D, 3D AND 4TH, A. L., 5879.



RALEIGH:
UZZELL & WILEY, PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1880.

GRAND OFFICERS

FOR THE MASONIC YEAR 1880, AND THEIR ADDRESS.

WILLIAM R. COX,	.....	GRAND MASTER,	.....	<i>Raleigh.</i>
J. C. L. GUDGER,	.....	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,	.....	<i>Waynesville.</i>
CHARLES W. ALEXANDER,	...	SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,	.....	<i>Charlotte.</i>
HENRY F. GRAINGER,	.....	JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN,	.....	<i>Goldsboro.</i>
WILLIAM E. ANDERSON,	.....	GRAND TREASURER,	.....	<i>Raleigh.</i>
DONALD W. BAIN,	.....	GRAND SECRETARY,	.....	<i>Raleigh.</i>
WILLIAM B. ROYAL,	.....	GRAND CHAPLAIN,	.....	<i>W. F. College.</i>
CHARLES H. ROBINSON,	.....	SENIOR GRAND DEACON,	.....	<i>Wilmington.</i>
WILLIAM T. KENNEDY,	.....	JUNIOR GRAND DEACON,	.....	<i>Stonewall.</i>
JOHN W. COTTEN,	.....	GRAND MARSHAL,	.....	<i>Tarboro.</i>
R. J. NOBLE,	.....	GRAND SWORD BEARER,	.....	<i>Selma.</i>
WILLIAM H. SMITH,	.....	GRAND PURSUIVANT,	.....	<i>Oxford.</i>
JOHN M. FLEMING,	.....	GRAND STEWARD,	.....	<i>Rolesville.</i>
JOHN T. SHUBRICK,	.....	GRAND STEWARD,	.....	<i>Winton.</i>
MILES GOODWIN,	.....	GRAND TILER,	.....	<i>Raleigh.</i>

PROCEEDINGS.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, began its ninety-third Annual Communication, at its Hall, Holleman Building, in the City of Raleigh, on Tuesday evening, December 2d, A. L., 5879, A. D., 1879, at 8 o'clock, and was opened in ample form, it appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges was represented.

Prayer was offered by Rev. W. P. Williams, Grand Chaplain, *pro tem.*

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

M. W.,	WILLIAM R. COX,	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W.,	THOMAS S. KENAN,	<i>as Deputy Grand Master.</i>
"	CHARLES W. ALEXANDER,	<i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
"	HENRY F. GRAINGER,	<i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
"	WILLIAM E. ANDERSON,	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	DONALD W. BAIN,	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
BRO.	R. J. NOBLE,	<i>as Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
"	CHARLES H. ROBINSON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
"	JOHN W. COTTEN,	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
"	JULIAN S. CARR,	<i>as Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
"	WILLIAM H. SMITH,	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
"	MILES GOODWIN,	<i>Grand Tiler.</i>

And the following Past Grand Officers:

M. W., Robert W. Best, George W. Blount and Horace H. Munson, Past Grand Masters.

R. W., James H. Moore and Samuel H. Rountree, Past Junior Grand Wardens.

R. W., C. W. D. Hutchings, Past Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Thomas C. Worth, from the Committee on Credentials, presented the report of that Committee, which was read, accepted and recommitted for the completion of the same by the addition

of representatives as they might arrive during the Communication.

The following is the report of the Committee:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on Credentials have examined the credentials submitted to them, and report Lodges duly represented as follows:

ST. JOHN'S,.....No.	1.....James C. Munds proxy for S. W., H. H. Munson proxy for W. M. and J. W.
ST. JOHN'S,.....“	3.....L. W. Hancock,.....Rep.
CHARITY,.....“	5.....W. M. Sutton,.....J. W.
PHENIX,.....“	8.....James C. MacRae,.....Proxy for Officers.
AMERICAN GEORGE,....“	17.....W. P. Beaman,.....Rep.
PHALANX,.....“	31.....F. H. Glover, .....W. M.
DAVIE,.....“	39.....J. S. Grant, proxy for W. M., John C. Tynes, proxy for S. W.
HIRAM,.....“	40.....J. C. R. Little, W. M., T. W. Blake, S. W., G. Rosenthal, J. W.
HALL,“	53.....T. C. Worth,.....Proxy for Rep.
KING SOLOMON,.....“	56.....R. T. Stephenson,.....W. M.
CONCORD,“	58.....John W Cotten,.....J. W.
WIDOW'S SON,.....“	75.....Thomas S. Kenan,.....Rep.
GREENSBORO',“	76.....S. C. Dodson,.....W. M.
FELLOWSHIP,“	84.....W. N. Benton and J. J. Vinson, Rep., and W. H. Ford, J. W.
JOSEPH WARREN,.....“	92.....G. W. Blount,.....Prox for W. M.
JERUSALEM,.....“	95.....William Coward,.....Proxy for Officers.
ST. JOHN'S,.....“	96.....S. H. Rountree, Sr.,.....W. M.
WAKE FOREST,.....“	97.....L. M. Green, S. W., and D. H. Honeycutt, J. W.
BELMONT,“	108.....R. W. Best,.....Proxy for Officers.
WAYNE,“	112.....E. W. Cox,.....Proxy for Officers.
HOLLY SPRING,.....“	115.....J. W. F. Rogers, S. W., J. G. Langston, J. W.
MT. LEBANON,.....“	117.....G. W. Blount,.....W. M.
MT. HERMON,.....“	118.....Wm. E. Anderson,.....Proxy for Officers.
TUSCARORA,.....“	122.....A. H. A. Williams,.....W. M.,
FRANKLINTON,“	123.....B. F. Bullock, W. M., N. M. Barrow, proxy for S. W., N. Long, J. W.
CLINTON,.....“	124.....B. Burwell and G. S. Baker,.....Reps.
MILL CREEK,.....“	125.....C. H. Williams,.....S. W.

BLACKMER,	No. 127.....	Elias Hurley,.....	Rep.
HANKS,	" 128.....	Dennis Curtis,.....	W. M.
RADIANCE,	" 132.....	Arvel Sugg,.....	W. M.
KING SOLOMON,	" 138.....	D. W. Bain,....	Proxy for W. M. and J. W.
MOUNT ENERGY,	" 140.....	M. L. Winston, S. W., T. B. Lawrence, J. W.	
CAROLINA,	" 141.....	D. W. Bain,.....	Proxy for Officers.
PALMYRA,	" 147.....	R. A. Draughon,.....	Proxy for W. M.
ADONIRAM,	" 149.....	G. W. Watkins, W. M., G. W. Pittard, S. W., and L. S. Elliott, J. W.	
SCOTCH IRELAND,	" 154.....	J. G. Ramsay,	W. M.
WHITE STONE,	" 155.....	J. R. Brown, W. M., L. W. Robertson, S. W., and W. H. Chamblee, J. W.	
ROLESVILLE,	" 156.....	John M. Fleming,.....	W. M.
MOUNT PLEASANT,	" 157.....	Dudley Peed, W. M., and J. A. J. Penny, J. W.	
KNAP OF REEDS,	" 158.....	F. J. Tilley,	W. M.
ARCHER,	" 165.....	J. R. Barnes, W. M., and H. L. Barnes proxy for S. W.	
DELK,	" 171.....	J. B. Neathery,.....	Proxy for Officers.
GEORGE WASHINGTON,	" 174.....	S. G. Wilson,.....	W. M.
MECKLENBURG,	" 176.....	W. P. Williams,.....	W. M.
SANDY CREEK,	" 185.....	D. Wester,.....	Proxy for Officers.
PINE FOREST,	" 186.....	Neill McLeod,.....	W. M.
CENTRAL CROSS,	" 187.....	H. J. Baines,.....	W. M.
BALFOUR,	" 188.....	T. C. Worth,.....	Rep.
GRANITE,	" 191.....	W. H. Lancaster,.....	W. M.
CARY,	" 198.....	J. Q. Williams,.....	S. W.
EAGLE ROCK,	" 201.....	J. W. Smith,.....	W. M.
CLEVELAND,	" 202.....	R. T. Gray,.....	Proxy for Rep.
ROANOKE,	" 203.....	T. L. Emry,	S. W.
BEREA,	" 204.....	W. H. Smith, W. M., W. S. Lyon, Rep.	
MINGO,	" 206.....	R. A. Draughon,.....	W. M.
MT. OLIVE,	" 208.....	A. S. Davis, S. W., and A. J. K. Rhodes proxy for W. M.	
RICHLAND,	" 214.....	J. H. Mills and R. W. Thomas, proxy for S. and J. W.	
NEW LIGHT,	" 215.....	C. M. Rogers, W. M., B. Walker proxy for S. W., E. Grissom for J. W.	
CATAWBA VALLEY,	" 217.....	N. B. Broughton,.....	Proxy for Officers.
WILLIAM G. HILL,	" 218.....	B. C. Manly, W. M., W. J. Weir, S. W., J. A. Briggs, J. W.	
HENDERSON,	" 229.....	W. T. Cheatham,.....	W. M.
WILLIAM T. BAIN,	" 231.....	W. R. Stephenson,.....	W. M.

LENOIR,.....	No. 233.....	S. I. Sutton, W. M., and W. B. Reid, S. W.
ANCHOR,.....	" 234.....	J. E. Whitley, S. W., Y. L. Smith, proxy for J. W.
COKESEBURY,.....	" 235.....	M. V. Prince, W. M.
WICACON,.....	" 240.....	John T. Shubrick,.....Proxy for Officers.
ROUNTREE,.....	" 243.....	P. N. Pittman,.....S. W.
MONROE,.....	" 244.....	George H. Snow,.....Proxy for Officers.
PYTHAGORAS,.....	" 249.....	H. H. Munson,.....Proxy for S. and J. W.
LEE,.....	" 253.....	W. G. Bennett,.....Rep.
BEULAH,.....	" 257.....	Elias Rose, .....S. W.
HARNETT,.....	" 258.....	A. N. Campbell,.....W. M.
CENTRE HILL,.....	" 260.....	J. H. Mills,.....Proxy for W. M.
EXCELSIOR,.....	" 261.....	E. H. White,.....Proxy for Officers.
DURBIN,.....	" 266.....	W. G. Hall,.....Proxy for W. M.
DUNN'S ROCK,.....	" 267.....	John Nichols,.....Proxy for Officers.
TABASCO,.....	" 271.....	J. M. Sutton,.....Rep.
WATAUGA,.....	" 273.....	H. A. Gudger,.....Proxy for Officers.
GREEN LEVEL,.....	" 277.....	T. T. Holland,.....S. W.
COLESVILLE,.....	" 278.....	F. H. Busbee,.....Rep.
SAPONA,.....	" 280.....	T. C. Worth,.....Proxy for Rep.
SALEM,.....	" 289.....	N. B. Broughton,.....Proxy for Rep.
VANCE,.....	" 293.....	Eugene Grissom and W. E. Anderson, Reps.
PLEASANT HILL,.....	" 304.....	S. H. Rountree,.....Proxy for Officers.
LAURINBURG,.....	" 305.....	J. McHurley,.....J. W.
GALATIA,.....	" 306.....	J. C. MacRae,.....Rep.
PATTERSON,.....	" 307.....	H. McNamar,.....S. W.
HATCHER,.....	" 310.....	L. H. Boykin,.....W. M.
NEW LEBANON,.....	" 314.....	D. W. Bain,.....Proxy for Officers.
KINSTON,.....	" 316.....	S. H. Rountree,.....Proxy for Officers.
WILMINGTON,.....	" 319.....	Charles H. Robinson,.....W. M.
SELMA,.....	" 320.....	R. J. Noble,.....W. M.
WENTWORTH,.....	" 324.....	T. W. Field,.....Proxy for Officers.
WINTON,.....	" 327.....	John T. Shubrick,.....Rep.
FAYETTEVILLE,.....	" 329.....	W. D. Jones, proxy for W. M. and J. W.
BAYBORO',.....	" 331.....	R. M. Daniels,.....W. M.
GOLDSBORO',.....	" 332.....	George W. Blount,.....Proxy for Officers.
ROMAN EAGLE,.....	" 334.....	J. C. L. Harris,.....Proxy for Rep.
HARMONY,.....	" 340.....	N. J. Smith,.....W. M.
CEDAR FORK,.....	" 342.....	Sidney Scott, S. W., and J. W. Turner, J. W.
APEX,.....	" 349.....	W. J. Holleman,.....W. M.
MOUNT MORIAH,.....	" 350.....	T. P. Braswell,.....Rep.

DURHAM,.....	No. 352.....	W. T. Blackwell,.....	J. W.
EUNO,.....	" 354.....	C. M. Holt,.....	Rep.
MT. VERNON,.....	" 359.....	William T. Kennedy,.....	Rep.
ACACIA,.....	" 361.....	R. L. Sutphin,.....	Rep.
IREDELL,.....	" 362.....	W. P. Williams,.....	Proxy for Officers.
SNOW,.....	" 363.....	H. A. Gudger,.....	Proxy for Officers.
CRAIGHEAD,.....	" 366.....	W. P. Williams,.....	Proxy for J. W.
JACHIN,.....	" 367.....	C. H. Robinson,.....	Proxy for W. M.
MOUNT PISGAH,.....	" 368.....	L. D. Baucom,.....	S. W.

Respectfully submitted,

T. C. WORTH,

N. B. RROUGHTON,

Committee.

The Grand Master delivered his annual address, which was, on motion of Bro. W. P. Williams, referred to a special committee, which the Grand Master announced as follows: Bre. W. P. Williams, George W. Blount, P. G. M., and H. H. Munson, P. G. M.

ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

We meet together to-night in fraternal communion for the purpose of advancing the cause of Freemasonry, and thereby promoting the welfare and happiness of our fellow-men. We should not be content to indulge in pæans to the past achievements of our venerable order; but rather so to emphasize the present by our daily labors that we may feel sure, that in the work which we now submit for the approval of our Supreme Grand Master, we have faithfully pursued the designs traced upon the trestle-board.

In all of our Lodges there are altars upon which constantly rest the Holy Bible, which we recognize as the "moral and spiritual trestle-board" of our faith; and thereon the Great Architect has drawn the designs which every faithful craftsman is expected diligently to copy. Hence it is unmistakably recognized as one of our landmarks: "A Mason is bound by his tenure to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understand the art, he will never be a stupid atheist nor an irreligious libertine." Masonry erects no system of theology for its votaries; it sustains to the church militant the same relations which the asymptote bears to the hyperbolic curve, ever approaching, never touching it; and it contemplates the promotion of man's truest happiness by the inculcation of genuine morality, and the practice of the triune virtues—*Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.*

While it is not sought to enforce impossible conditions, every Mason, by his tenure, is obligated to live soberly, act discreetly, and uniformly obey the moral law; he is rigidly enjoined never to mention the name of Deity but with that reverential awe, which is due from the creature to the Creator. While paying all lawful respect to those in authority, it never mingles in the political controversies of State, or seeks to influence in matters of religion.

Even amid the angry dash of arms and the fierce conflicts of civil war, its holy mission was to relieve suffering and misery, to pour oil into the gaping wounds, and to provide for the dead suitable burial. Hence it has witnessed the rise and fall of dynasties, and has survived to command the confidence and respect of all, and to receive within its folds the good and great of every age and nation.

Whether it is now prospering within this jurisdiction depends upon whether you have faithfully and diligently acquitted yourselves of the responsibilities committed to your charge. This grand body is composed of the officers of the subordinate Lodges, and from these members we must learn of our condition. Wherever you shall find a bright and fearless Master, assisted by a prompt Secretary, you will see a flourishing and well-regulated Lodge; but wherever you discover these officers ignorant and indifferent, you will find the Lodge in arrears, and in all probability be importuned with petitions for the remission of the dues, which self-respect requires should be promptly met, and dimits and decay mark its downward course.

These remarks do not apply in their full force to sparsely settled neighborhoods, where it is not always practicable to receive proper instruction, nor convenient to secure a punctual attendance; nor to those who have suffered unanticipated losses. In your reports for the current Masonic year, brethren, render no halting apologies for duties omitted. Remember that "words are but leaves, acts are the fruit." If you have been remiss, frankly admit it, and amend your conduct in the future. In our mystic language, be not content to enter the temple whose over arching dome rests upon the pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, with false pretence, which will in all probability cause the rejection of your petition and produce an irritating mortification.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

In entering upon the discharge of my official duties, I was really concerned at the reports which were current of the amount of correspondence which was likely to be required of me. I was led to believe that my opinion would be sought in regard to the settlement of minor neighborhood disputes, wherever members of the order were involved, and that much labor would be demanded to reply to questions which are answered in our Masonic code, with which, I am sorry to say, many of our Lodges have still failed to supply themselves.

That many such letters have been received is most true, but it was an evidence in many instances of the reliance felt in the power of the order to make

crooked things straight, and in others perhaps originated from a pardonable desire to open a correspondence with the Grand Master, I have no ground of complaint. On the contrary, I have invited and encouraged the fullest and freest correspondence, and condemn rather the apathy which fails to seek light until the work is deranged by internal jealousies or fatally impaired by unskillful hands.

There have been several important questions submitted for my consideration requiring laborious research to answer satisfactorily, and rulings have been necessary which might, if rendered unwisely, grow into unfortunate and misleading precedents. It has been my invariable practice to answer no letters which were unaccompanied by the seal of the Lodge and the signature of the Secretary, when such could be obtained. A printed circular was sent to call attention to this omission and the requirements of the law whenever it became necessary. The following are among the principal

DECISIONS.

1. A profane applies for admission into a Lodge in this State and is rejected. He goes on a visit to his native land, Scotland, and while there receives the degrees. Upon his return to his home he presents his credentials and applies to enter the Lodge.

The Lodge should not receive him. He was a sojourner while abroad, and could only have been admitted into the Lodge in Scotland by withholding important information, to-wit: the fact of his application and rejection in North Carolina. Surely he could not have been initiated had this been communicated to the Lodge in Scotland, unless that Lodge had been strangely unobservant of the common law of Freemasonry, that is, that a candidate must apply for the degrees where he resides and is best known, and that one brother shall not supplant another in his work.

2. A receives the E. A. degree and thereafter the Lodge in which he is initiated forfeits its charter. The members of that Lodge then become the material of the nearest Lodge. A certificate by the Secretary of the defunct Lodge reciting the fact that A had taken the E. A. degree, and requesting a more distant Lodge to confer the remaining degrees, is entitled to no consideration.

3. A, residing near the State line, desires a dimit to join a nearer Lodge in a neighboring State, and wishes still to retain his connection with the Grand Lodge of this State. The jurisdiction of our Lodges is determined by State lines and this cannot, therefore, be allowed.

4. In Masonic trials truth is the object aimed at; verbal technicalities and objections are not favored and should never be permitted to obstruct the ends of justice. The accusation should be clearly set forth and distinctly met.

5. When the accused employs counsel for his defence, the accuser may, with the consent of the Lodge, employ counsel to prosecute.

6. Charges should always be preferred in writing, but if a brother, anticipating that charges will be preferred, asks a dimit, and another brother rises and verbally states the substance of the charges he intends to prefer, a reasonable time will be given for the preparation of the charges before the application for dimit is acted upon.

7. It is not necessary for the Committee on the Orphan Asylum to report when they have collected nothing; but their next report or remittance must include the time not accounted for. It is difficult, however, to discover why there is nothing to remit, if there has been a communication.

8. A M. M., under a sentence of indefinite suspension, can be tried for gross unmasonic conduct committed since his suspension, and if his conduct deserve it, expelled.

9. A M. M. dismembered for non-payment of dues is entitled to be restored upon petition accompanied by the payment of his arrears.

10. A Lodge cannot entertain a petition from a minister for initiation unless accompanied by the fee; it can be returned to him if it be a genuine case of charity—not otherwise. There is no distinction of callings or professions.

GRAND MASTER'S PREROGATIVES.

During the year I have received a dispatch from a past-grand officer inquiring whether I could issue a dispensation to bury with Masonic honors "a highly esteemed citizen and physician," who through inadvertence suffered his name to be dropped from the roll of his Lodge. I replied that if it arose from *inadvertence* I could grant the relief. The dispensation, however, was not applied for and none was issued.

The attention of the Grand Lodge is especially directed to this ruling, inasmuch as some highly respected brothers differ with me, and regard this as an innovation, contending that our Code provides that non-affiliates are excluded in all cases from the rite of Masonic burial. I concede that the Grand Master can do nothing which the Grand Lodge *forbids* him to do, in accordance with the *ancient landmarks*, but he *can* do all things else which long usage has recognized, even though there be no express law of the Grand Lodge granting the power. In other words, he should exercise a supervising care and guardianship over the craft, and may do all things which are not positively forbidden in order to promote the well-being of the fraternity. Mitchell says in his Digest: "When the Grand Master is apprised of the existence of an error, evidently the result of ignorance, or even when a known law has been transcended under a firm conviction that the interests of Masonry imperatively demand it, he, in the recess of the Grand Lodge, not only has the power, but it becomes his duty, to act." For example, if a Lodge has acted without law the Grand Master may, in some instances, validate its action. Just as a court may set aside a judgment involving important rights, if obtained through "the inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect" of another, so Masonry, ever

seeking to administer the highest equity, should establish no more arbitrary rule or take advantage of the inadvertence of a brother. It is not claimed that the Grand Master can restore to membership, or can in any manner interfere with the rights of subordinate Lodges, but at the request of the brethren he may grant a dispensation in a case like the one under consideration. I am confirmed in this ruling by our eminent brother Albert Pike, who says in a letter to me: "If your Code is not peremptory, to the effect that one becoming non-affiliate *shall not have* Masonic burial, I think the expression "not entitled to it" should only be taken to mean that such burial is not a matter of strict right, but can only be had when, under the circumstances, the party is not justly chargeable with having so neglected the duties of Masonry as not to have deserved the honor of Masonic burial.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

It has been the custom to appoint most of your committees upon the evening of the assembling of the Grand Lodge, and their duties must be discharged either during its session, or at such moments as can be snatched from the hours of refreshment. Many inconveniences arise from this. The members of important committees lose the pleasure of participating in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and we are deprived of the benefit of their counsel. The Grand Secretary is oppressed with numerous duties and cannot give to committees the information and assistance they sometimes require, and their duties are often necessarily imperfectly performed, while at other times the Grand Lodge is left waiting for their reports. I respectfully suggest that at least a portion of these committees be appointed by the newly elected Grand Master on the last day of the communication, and that all matters which will require investigation by a committee be forwarded to the Grand Secretary at least ten days before the meeting of the Grand Lodge: that these committees meet the day before the Grand Lodge convenes, and consider the matters properly brought before them, so that reports may be in readiness for the action of the body on the morning of the second day of the session. The Grand Lodge might think it advisable that all matters not sent forward to the Grand Secretary in advance, should lie over until the next communication, but that can, in the discretion of the body, be easily regulated. I believe that the labor of this body would thereby be greatly facilitated, and the reports of committees being more carefully prepared, would be in better shape for the action of the body, and it is to be hoped that more time would be afforded for a much needed exemplification of the work. This suggestion is meant to apply chiefly to the Committees on Propositions and Grievances, and Suspensions and Expulsions, provision having been made heretofore for standing committees on Credentials, Finance and Jurisprudence, who can sit in advance of the communication. To the objection that the Grand Master cannot know which brethren will attend

the communication, it might be answered that there are "old familiar faces" that rarely disappoint us, and besides a majority might be selected from those adjacent to the capital.

GRAND LECTURERS.

Our system of Grand Lecturers is confessedly imperfect and insufficient. A Grand Master, newly elected and not generally acquainted with the most proficient craftsmen, and not always himself *au fait* in the ritual, has the duty imposed upon him of appointing an indefinite number of Grand Lecturers for the State. He is sometimes imposed upon by recommendations of brethren who are unfit, morally, socially and intellectually for the important duties of the office. A Grand Lecturer should not only have a perfect knowledge of the work, but he should have the talent of imparting the knowledge which "makes the world a Mason's home, and raising him high above geographical divisions and the obstacles of language and religion, secure him protection and repose wherever fate or fortune may direct his steps." It is difficult for us to ascertain what the true "Stephenson work" is amid the contradictions and variances of our best authorities, and perfect uniformity is impossible. The craft are at sea without chart or helmsman. We have also to contend with a wide-spread indifference. The reports of those Lecturers who have complied with the duty of making reports, show that Masons and Lodges are indifferent about securing their services.

Nearly all my predecessors have pointed out the failure of the present system, and have from time to time made admirable suggestions for a remedy; but the cry of "hard times" and an unwise economy have prevented the adoption of their views. I am not unmindful of the fate of their recommendations, yet, the plan I suggest for your consideration will at least secure uniformity and not prove expensive.

Let the Grand Lodge choose a single Grand Lecturer, who shall be recognized as the custodian of the work, with a term of office of five years, unless sooner removed for cause by the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master during the recess. Let this Grand Lecturer be at the disposal of the Grand Master for a certain number of days during each year, at a certain *per diem* for each day actually employed, to be paid by the Grand Treasurer. This Grand Lecturer should have the power to appoint, and, with the approval of the Grand Master, commission such a number of assistants as he may need, who shall be paid by the subordinate Lodges, when their services are needed, as at present.

NON-AFFILIATION.

Our Grand Secretary informs me that the number of non-affiliations within the past three years exceed, the number of admissions into the order. While I am aware that this is a crying evil in many jurisdictions, arising in some

instances from the creation of excessive debts, and in others from the reception of unworthy members, who obtained admission during the war, yet these causes do not at present obtain in this jurisdiction. Here Masonry appears in her most attractive garb, her chief object being to improve man's moral and æsthetic nature, to promote public and private virtue, to provide for the orphans and relieve the distressed. We are therefore forced to ask ourselves why are so many Masons dismembered? Some have doubtless been disappointed because they did not find the order a convivial club, but a busy hive, making no provisions for drones. But there is, in addition to this, and similar general causes, another which arises from the indiscriminating character of our assessments. Our law provides for an assessment of fifty cents for every member of subordinate Lodges as the tax for the support of the Grand Lodge, and those who have this to pay in addition to the regular expenses of the Lodge, become impatient with delinquent members, and to reduce the assessment, sometimes dismember them without sufficient consideration.

Again, a negligent Secretary, instead of forwarding to the members notice of their dues each quarter, omit it until the amount becomes inconveniently large, the brother grows careless, is disheartened and eventually dismembered. This is not Masonic. It should be regarded as an honor to be a Mason—a reproach to be a non-affiliate. If the craft would evince the same zeal in upholding a falling brother that they do in instructing him when an initiate, such would be the universal opinion.

There are men and Masons who can readily be persuaded, but never driven, and I fear there is just now rather too much tendency to drive. Two past-grand officers from a single Lodge, worthy, distinguished, and of good worldly substance, have been summarily dealt with during the present year, and though they may have again become affiliated, there is naturally some sting remaining. Before dismemberment for non-payment of dues a brother should be summoned to appear and pay; if he fails to appear, he should be cited to show cause why he should not be tried for disobedience of summons, and if still recalcitrant he should be tried and punished. A careful Master will avoid much trouble by requiring his Secretary to notify the members regularly when in arrears. None who are able should be excused; indulgence does not always, or usually accomplish its object.

There are, however, brethren whose circumstances are so cramped that they are absolutely unable to meet their assessments, while a feeling of false pride keeps them from acknowledging it. Let such unbosom themselves to a brother, and relief will surely follow.

The Grand Lodge exacts this assessment from every member of the subordinate Lodges, without regard to the fact that many members are excused from the payment of dues by such Lodges, either on account of sickness, poverty or unavoidable misfortune. This is hardly just. I recommend that each Lodge

•

should, in its annual report, set forth the members who have been excused by a vote of the Lodge from the payment of dues, with an exact statement of the cause of granting the relief. Such report should be examined by a suitable committee, and if the Grand Lodge should concur in the action of the subordinate Lodge, the amount of assessment upon the relieved member should be refunded to the Lodge. But no Lodge should take it for granted in advance that their action would be approved, and each should send up its full assessment, part of which might be returned if so ordered.

A MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOCIATION

was incorporated in 1870, the main object of which was declared to be the erection of a building, suitable for the purposes of our annual communications and creditable to the taste and liberality of the fraternity. Some of the officers and many of the subscribers of the association, were not Masons. Large sums were subscribed by Lodges and individuals, part of which were paid in full, and for most of the balance, notes were given. A lot was bought and partly paid for, and the balance of the purchase money secured by a mortgage of the lot. The officers of the association say that if the subscriptions to the association had been paid, the lot could have been paid for and the building erected. But the facts are that the panic of 1873 came, the interest on the mortgage note increased, the collections totally ceased, the lot was sold under the mortgage and bought by the mortgagees for less than the amount due them. The trustees of the association are now attempting to collect an assessment on the notes given to the association to pay the balance due the mortgagees. We have, perhaps, nothing to do with this as a Grand Lodge, but inasmuch as much dissatisfaction is expressed in regard to the entire matter, and as the burden of it will be placed, rightly or wrongly, upon the Masonic order, I recommend the appointment of a committee to inquire into the matter and report such suggestions to this Grand Lodge, or to subordinate Lodges, or individuals, as the case may require. The responsibility for the failure should be placed where it justly belongs.

THE OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM

for the scope and character of its benefactions, stands to-day unrivalled, and is fast becoming one of the most attractive places in the State.

For the information of those who have never enjoyed the pleasure of visiting this institution, I will add, that the building is of the Gothic order of architecture; is handsome and imposing, and its graceful spire is the first to attract the traveler's attention, as he nears the town of Oxford. The avenue approaching the building leads through a beautiful grove composed chiefly of

"That king of the forest, the long surviving oak."

It is situated just beyond the corporate limits, and surrounded by a refined

and hospitable community. Their uniform support and never failing generosity towards the Asylum is its strongest commendation, for these have had daily facilities for observing its management. An appeal in behalf the little orphans never falls unheeded upon the ears of the good people of Granville county; in its darkest hours their contributions were an unfailing source of reliance.

It is a touching and interesting spectacle to see gathered into one household so many desolate ones, houseless, motherless, fatherless; rescued in many instances from virtual slavery, taken from want-stricken homes, from beside newly made graves, and brought together members of a happy family. Their wants are relieved, their physical energies strengthened, their mental and moral nature cultivated, until suitable provision is made for them to go forth into the busy conflict of life. Who can properly estimate the value of the social forces, set in motion by this magnificent charity, inaugurated and sustained by the Masons of North Carolina?

ST. JOHN'S DAY (JUNE 24,)

was celebrated at the Asylum, with exercises by the children and several appropriate addresses, and at the request of the brethren, your Grand Master, aided by the Grand Treasurer, opened the Grand Lodge and participated in the celebration.

Hon. A. S. Merrimon was the orator of the day, and selected for his subject, "Practical Charity," which he treated in a manner highly acceptable to his hearers. While not a member of the craft, he was chosen for this duty on account of his well known public spirit and in recognition of contributions received from other than Masonic sources.

In obedience to a suggestion contained in a circular to the subordinate Lodges, similar celebrations were had, and collections made and forwarded to the Superintendent by the following Lodges: Davie, No. 39; Hall, No. 53; Widow's Son, No. 75; St. Albans, No. 114, and Jonesville, No. 227.

During the recent session of the

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

at Oxford, its members were formally invited and accepted the invitation to visit the Asylum. An address of welcome was delivered by your Grand Master, at the request of brother Mills, in which he gave an account of the orphan work, its origin, progress and present condition. He was happily responded to by the Rev. N. B. Cobb, President of the Convention, when a liberal impromptu collection ensued. While addressing the members of the Convention, your Grand Master suggested for their consideration the propriety of setting aside the offerings collected one day in every year, in each Baptist Church in the State, for this noble charity. It is most

gratifying to report that, having had opportunities of conferring with those most familiar with its operations, as well as seeing for themselves, at its night session, the following resolution was unanimously passed by this distinguished body :

WHEREAS, we feel a deep interest in the work of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, and believe it is doing an inestimable amount of good ; and, whereas, we believe that the Baptist people of the State will feel it to be not only a duty, but a privilege, to contribute regularly to its support ; therefore,

Resolved, That all our pastors are hereby earnestly requested to take up a collection at each of their churches, at least once a year, in behalf of this great and important object.

It is confidently believed that all similar bodies in our State will find it consistent with their views to pass corresponding resolutions, and thus systematize that munificence they have heretofore displayed.

This North Carolina charity, so auspiciously begun and so long sustained by a liberal and generous people, must not fail. With returning prosperity it should be enlarged in its capacities for doing good. It now contains within its walls one hundred and thirty-eight children, and I am happy to believe it can no longer be regarded as an *experiment*. Its prospects were never brighter ; established in the confidence and affections of all classes, it is growing stronger and stronger day by day.

Our great desideratum is an endowment, of which we have as yet only the nucleus. It is true our little meal may not waste, and our cruse of oil may never fail, but we know not how long the present lineal descendant of the Good Samaritan may continue in charge to dispense its blessings, (we devoutly hope for many years) and there is a necessity for a substantial reliance.

The children are bright and cheerful, clean and well cared for, the teachers have been selected with much care, are accomplished and refined. One can readily see that it is their interest in the orphan work that lightens their duties and reconciles them to simple fare and daily privations. Three young girls, once beneficiaries of this institution, having, through the assistance of friends and liberality of the schools, been enabled to complete their studies at "St. Mary's School at Raleigh, Greensboro Female College, and Chowan Baptist Female Institute at Murfreesboro," have considerably returned, and at small salaries, are now devoting themselves to the orphans' work.

STATE APPROPRIATION.

At your last annual communication, you directed your Grand Master to confer with His Excellency, brother Z. B. Vance, in reference to recommending in his message to the General Assembly, the propriety of making an appropriation for the benefit of the Asylum, which he briefly did. During its session brother W. S. Harris, Senator from Franklin, &c., introduced a resolution to that effect, and accompanied it with a few appropriate and eloquent

remarks. By it we secured an appropriation of \$3,000 per annum, and the singular unanimity with which the measure passed both the Senate and House was alike gratifying to him and complimentary to all concerned, and has, I trust, stimulated the craft to renewed zeal.

Governor Jarvis, in his recent thanksgiving proclamation, very considerably appealed to the people to remember the orphans at Oxford, which in many instances, it is known they cheerfully did.

ECONOMY.

I feel that I need hardly assure you that your contributions for the orphans at Oxford are wisely and judiciously administered. The small *per capita* expenditure for each orphan, as shown by the report of brother Mills, clearly demonstrates that fact.

The only unhappy looking creatures about the institution are certain venerable mules, whose long fuzzy ears, protruding hips and lugubrious brayings, lead one to suppose that in such a presence, each would like to be an orphan.

Yet could they appreciate the high encomiums of our excellent Superintendent, of how fast they travel when out of town, of how much work they do, how easily managed by the boys, and how indispensable they are, they would be better content with their lot; provided there was more provender in it, or less work to do.

While the exterior walls are good and substantial, the cow-houses, cross-fences, &c., are constructed of such conglomerate material, that it would puzzle the Superintendent himself, to tell from whence it came. Indeed, these, with many other matters, the wholesome and simple fare of the children—their comfortable and plain clothing, the well-tilled soil and everything about the institution, displays that intelligent economy which has so gathered up the fragments that nothing is lost.

I refer you to the report of brother Mills for a detailed statement of his operations during the year.

Brother J. A. Leach, with a chapter of orphans, has canvassed parts of the State during the last month, in the interest of the institution, and his collections are very satisfactory.

DISPENSATIONS

have been granted during the year to enable many Lodges to elect and install their officers, to lay corner-stones for public buildings and to form new Lodges. I refer you to the report of the Grand Secretary for details in regard to such matters.

FRATERNAL COURTESIES.

The Grand Lodge of Arkansas has duly appointed and accredited brother F. H. Busbee, P. M., as her representative near this grand body, and your

Grand Master has duly appointed and accredited brother M. M. McGuire, P. G. M., as representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.

The Grand Lodge of New Mexico desired to appoint a representative near this Grand Lodge, but inasmuch as this grand body, at its last Annual Communication, neglected to take action in regard to that grand jurisdiction, all action relative to the matter has been postponed.

CONCLUSION.

I have already dwelt at such length upon topics that could not well be overlooked, I must refrain from adverting to others, for fear of becoming tedious. Therefore, in conclusion, suffer me to remind you that it is not the quantity, but the quality of the material employed, that imparts symmetry and stability to spiritual as well as earthly temples; it is not the number of members upon its roll that gives a Lodge character and importance, but the Masonic virtues and character of its members. No importunity, no perverted friendship should avail to secure admission into the order, for those whose names are blurred by the tongue of evil report, or around whom even the taint of suspicion clings. The footsteps of men like these, should never resound along our tessellated pavement, nor their breath defile the pure atmosphere of a true Masonic Lodge. When they do find admission through our sentinels and will not reform, let them be dealt with as aliens and strangers.

But we must not be unmindful that it is wholly inconsistent with the tenets of Freemasonry to debar any one from the benefits of our association because of differences of opinion, or private pique. The only test that can be consistently applied, is the one prescribed in our esoteric work, when the candidate first appears at the door of the Lodge. No one is persuaded to affiliate with the order, and none should ask admittance from considerations of mere temporal advantage. Charity is our *paraclete*, which is allegorically represented by the ladder seen by Jacob in his vision, which "ascended from earth to heaven," and the three principal rounds of which are symbolized by FAITH, HOPE and CHARITY; and upon this angels are continually ascending and descending on their missions of love and mercy. By it we are reminded ever to be "industrious in acquiring, temperate in using, and charitable in distributing, the good things of this life."

Upon you devolves the responsibility, and with you will rest the reward of so keeping your house in order that when the summons cometh, you will not be found idle.

Finally, accept my thanks for the honor conferred upon me, and for the forbearance you have exercised toward my imperfections in the discharge of my somewhat novel duties. I sincerely trust that this grand communication may prove both profitable and pleasant, that the blessings of heaven may rest upon your deliberations, and that the world at large may witness the good effects and reap the benefit of your labor.

A subsequent motion was made by Bro. B. C. Manly to refer so much of the address as relates to the Masonic Temple Association, to a special committee, which was adopted, and the following were announced as the committee: Bre. B. C. Manly, E. G. Reade, P. G. M., and H. F. Grainger, J. G. W.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual report, which was read and referred to the committee on his books.

REPORT:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

BRETHREN : From the official position which I occupy I have viewed the operations of the craft another year. Masonry, like every other interest that affects the public weal, has shared in the general financial depression. Its growth has, in a measure, been impeded, and its ability for a vigorous prosecution of work, diminished. For a few years past our gains and losses in this jurisdiction have been nearly equal, the latter somewhat exceeding the former. This is attributable to the reduction in the number of applicants for the degrees, and the large increase of exclusions for non-payment of dues. We have not sustained the same ratio of progress according to population, that some other jurisdictions have, yet we are not an exception in the less favorable exhibit which we make. In view of the difficulties attending the labors of many of our Lodges, which necessitated a struggle for existence, they are entitled to our congratulations on having maintained their organizations and continued work.

We have cause to hope that the depression is giving way to a more encouraging prospect, and that our Lodges will receive a renewed impulse from the improved condition of the industries of the country.

Three new Lodges were established during the year, under the dispensation of the Grand Master, viz. :

March 14, *Mount Pisgah*, at Mount Pisgah, Chatham county.

March 21, *Bethel*, at Bethel, Anson county.

May 14, *Air-Line*, at Gastonia, Gaston county.

Six Lodges were chartered at the last Annual Communication, with numbers 362 to 367, both inclusive. They were regularly constituted, and proceeded promptly to work.

Mill Creek Lodge, No. 125, has removed from Mill Creek Church, Johnston county, to Newton Grove, Sampson county, and Mayon Lodge, No. 360, from Clay Fork, Cumberland county, to Ammon, Bladen county. The action in both cases received the sanction of the Grand Master, and the proceedings were in conformity to Article VIII of the Constitution.

Greensboro Lodge, No. 76, Greensboro, has resumed work under flattering prospects, and a new interest has manifested itself among the fraternity in that community.

The following Lodges have ceased work:

Industrial, No. 212, at Company Shops, Alamance county.

Nahunta, No. 239, at Fremont, Wayne county.

Catawba, No. 248, at Newton, Catawba county.

Jerusalem, No. 315, at Jerusalem, Davie county.

Special efforts were made by the Grand Master and myself to preserve the organization of these Lodges, but were ineffectual as against the heavy burden of support under which their respectively small membership gave way.

The receipts into the Treasury amount to three thousand, four hundred and twenty-two dollars, and forty-three cents, and are stated as follows:

Dues from Lodges for 1878, and previous years,.....	\$ 3,237.80
Charters, deducting Grand Secretary's fees,.....	114.00
Dispensations, deducting Grand Secretary's fees,.....	27.00
Sales of the Code,.....	26.00
Sales of proceedings and diplomas,.....	1.50
Dues from members of extinct Lodges,.....	5.75
Net proceeds of sale of effects of Long Creek Lodge, No. 205, now extinct,	10.38
Total amomut,.....	\$ 3,422.43

This amount was paid to the Grand Treasurer, as shown by his receipts.

The records, cash book and ledger, of this office, are ready for the inspection of the committee, to whom they may be referred.

The proceedings of the last Annual Communication were printed and distributed as usual, though after some delay, caused by a severe protracted illness which attacked me early in the year.

EXCLUSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

This subject has been considered of such importance as to admit of repeated reference in previous reports. It is again presented with suggestions.

The law of this jurisdiction recognizes non-payment of dues as "a disregard of a special regulation conditioned upon membership," and places it among the "transgressions of minor consideration, the severest penalty for which shall be dismembership." It is admitted, therefore, that a Lodge has the power to resort to this course as a punishment of the unfaithfulness of members who disregard the claims of the Lodge upon them for dues, and their obligations to pay them.

The law provides, however, that "a member shall not be excluded from his Lodge without notice having been served on him to appear and show cause

for delinquency," and further, that "a written or printed notice, by order of the Master, signed by the Secretary, and attested by the seal of the Lodge, shall be considered a legal notice or summons."

The uniform Code of By-Laws, as adopted by this body, contains no provision regulating the payment of dues beyond the requirement that they shall be paid quarterly. It is left to the Lodges to supply the necessary rules on this subject, with the approval of the committee on jurisprudence.

The action of some of the Lodges indicates, that their regulations on the subject are at variance with the Code, in that they do not give direction to the Secretary in the issuing of the required notices, and the Lodge takes action upon a report of delinquency without the legal notices having been previously served.

A strict compliance with the law, seconded by the Secretary in the exercise of proper diligence in the collection of dues, would, in probably all cases, lead to a satisfactory adjustment of the claims upon the members, and secure their continued coöperation. This latter suggestion proceeds from a personal knowledge of the condition of some Lodges whose financial interests are kept prominently in view, and receive careful attention. A systematic financial policy as herein indicated, secures to a Lodge a healthful, prosperous growth, and immunity from trouble, financially and otherwise.

These suggestions may be deemed admissible when the announcement is made that, during the four years, 1875 to 1878, both inclusive, the number of members excluded for the non-payment of dues, exceeded seventeen hundred, and it is estimated, from the returns already received, that, with the Masonic year 1879, the number will exceed two thousand. It is evident that an edict is necessary to supply the deficiency in the uniform Code of By-Laws, applicable to only such Lodges as have no such regulation.

OFFICE OF DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

The Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, adopted an amendment to its Constitution, to abolish the office of Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to submit it to the subordinate Lodges for their ratification or rejection. The instructions were complied with early in the year. Up to this time I have received from only ninety Lodges the announcement of their action.

RETURNS OF LODGES.

The design of the law requiring Secretaries of Lodges to transmit the annual returns to this office by the 25th of November, is to facilitate the business of the Annual Communication, correct inaccuracies in the returns, ascertain the actual indebtedness of the Lodges, and make prompt and proper charges of the same. The law is rendered inoperative, to a great extent, by the failure of

more than half the Secretaries to comply with it. The practical benefits derived from even a partial observance of the law are evidence of its importance. I again urge upon Secretaries promptness in the discharge of duty in this respect, and in doing so, I do not lose sight of the demand which their daily occupation makes upon them, which constitutes the cause of their delay, but would suggest to them that their promptness would contribute to the effectiveness of a necessary law, and relieve this office of much unnecessary correspondence.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, ETC.

I submit herewith, as required by law, a special report, containing the names of members suspended, expelled or reinstated by the subordinate Lodges during the Masonic year, as reported to this office. The number of suspensions is sixteen, expulsions eleven, and restorations or reinstatements five.

NEW MASONIC HALL.

The Grand Treasurer and myself, acting under the authority given at the last Annual Communication, have conferred with committees representing the Lodges of this city, as to the necessity and expediency of procuring a hall more adapted to your wants. The presence of this body this evening in its new hall is evidence of the result of our action. In addition to what may be stated by the Grand Treasurer, as chairman of the committee, I make the report that the removal to this hall and the necessary additional outfit for this body, was attended with as little expense as possible. The enlarged provisions for the proper keeping of the records, papers and library of the Grand Lodge, will enable the Grand Secretary to so arrange them as to be more convenient of access and reference.

With the prayer for Divine guidance in our legislation, so that harmony may prevail in our councils, and that a fresh inspiration may be imparted to the Lodges in our jurisdiction, this report is fraternally submitted.

DONALD W. BAIN,
Grand Secretary.

The Grand Treasurer presented his annual report, which was read and referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims.

REPORT:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

W. E. ANDERSON, GRAND TREASURER,

In account with the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

		Dr.	
To amount on hand last report, December 3, 1878.....		\$	1,150 30
“ amount received from Insurance Companies for damage to Oxford Orphan Asylum building by fire.....			50
“ amount received from F. H. Busbee, attorney, one-half net proceeds sale of old Lodge premises (buildings and land)...			127 61
“ amount received from Grand Secretary for past Masonic year			3,422 43
			<hr/>
		\$	4,750 34
			<hr/>
		Cr.	
1878.	By amounts expended as follows:		
Dec. 3	Raleigh Observer, advertising.....	\$	5
“ 4	James Southgate, Grand Pursuivant, expenses to Annual Communication.....		7
“ 5	J. C. L. Gudger, Junior Grand Warden, expenses to Annual Communication.....		42 10
“ 5	B. E. Sedberry, Junior Grand Deacon, expenses to Annual Communication.....		7 30
“ 5	John Nichols and committee, expenses to Oxford.....		21 65
“ 6	S. H. Smith, Grand Sword Bearer, expenses to Annual Communication.....		14 35
“ 6	H. H. Munson, Grand Master, expenses to Annual Communication		19 05
“ 7	G. Rosenthal, services as Assistant Grand Secretary...		25
“ 7	G. Rosenthal, Assistant Grand Secretary, for counterfeited bill received.....		5
“ 7	John Nichols, balance due for publication of Masonic Code		86 25
“ 7	Miles Goodwin, services as Grand Tiler and other expenses.....		40 60
“ 7	G. W. Atkins for a hat and coat rack.....		5
“ 9	Raleigh News, advertising.....		5
“ 9	John Nichols, bill of printing for Grand Lodge.....		87 25
1879.			
Jan. 11	City of Raleigh, tax on property.....		13 33
“ 14	J. H. Mills, Superintendent, amount received by Grand Treasurer from Rev. Mr. Pease for property released to him by Grand Lodge, see debit entry of January 9, 1878, when Grand Treasurer charges himself.....		500
“ 21	John Nichols, printing bill.....		38
			<hr/>
Amount carried forward.....		\$	921 88

1878.	Amount brought forward.....	\$	921	88
Jan. 24	W. W. Holden, Post Master, postage stamps.....		4	40
" 31	P. F. Pescud, Jr., one-half cost of survey fire loss on Orphan Asylum.....		12	50
Feb. 12	P. F. Pescud & Son, General Agents, insurance Oxford Asylum.....		54	00
" 15	J. H. Mills, Superintendent, on account Orphan Asylum.....		500	
Mar. 3	Southern Express Company, freight on stationery.....		1	25
" 5	Tiffany & Co., bill of printing.....		29	80
" 6	Sundry parties, repairs to Orphan Asylum after fire....		50	
" 18	W. W. Holden, Post Master, postage stamps.....		2	50
" 25	W. W. Holden, Post Master, postage stamps.....		3	
" 25	W. S. Primrose, Agent and Secretary, insurance Oxford Asylum.....		34	
" 25	Alfred Williams, stationery.....			55
" 26	Alfred Williams & Co., stationery.....		3	30
Apl. 10	D. W. Bain, services as Grand Secretary for Masonic year 1878.....		700	
" 11	Uzzell & Wiley, printing proceedings and circulars....		267	80
" 11	Committee on Removal, one-third expenses of moving to new rooms.....		36	25
" 18	J. H. Mills, Superintendent, on account Orphan Asylum.....		500	
" 21	Southern Express Company, freight on annual proceedings.....		10	35
" 26	Kingsley & Ashley, repairing book-cases, &c.....		5	37
May 30	W. W. Holden, Post Master, postage on proceedings.....		40	
Jul. 24	W. W. Holden, Post Master, postage stamps.....		3	
" 25	H. Mahler, repairs to Grand Lodge jewels.....		30	
Nov 14	Grand Master W. R. Cox, expenses visiting Orphan Asylum.....		7	
" 18	J. H. Mill, Superintendent, on account Orphan Asylum.....		500	
" 20	Uzzell & Wiley, blank subscriptions to Orphan Asylum.....		1	25
" 26	F. H. Busbee, year's service as Private Secretary to Grand Master.....		25	
" 28	H. Mahler, for a jewel for Grand Master.....		100	
Dec. 1	Wm. G. Hill Lodge, rent for 1877, 1878 and 1879, and gas account.....		294	
" 2	Compensation to Grand Treasurer, past Masonic year Balance carried forward to new Masonic year.....		150	463 14
		\$	4,750	34

In conformity with a resolution of the Grand Lodge passed 4th December, 1878, and in connection with the two subordinate Lodges in the city of Raleigh, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer have contracted with W. H. Holleman, of this city, for the lease for five years of the hall in which this Grand Communication is now being held, at an annual rent of one hundred and seventy-five dollars, and have agreed on behalf of this Grand Lodge, to pay one-third of the sum of one hundred and sixty dollars per annum, and

have paid one-third of the expense of removal and fitting up the new hall, to-wit: thirty-six dollars and twenty-five cents, for which amount you will find the proper voucher in my accoûnts.

The Grand Treasurer has received from the Executors of the late Hon. Bartholomew F. Moore, deceased, a United States five per cent. bond for one thousand dollars, of the class known as the fives of 1881, interest payable quarterly, on the first days of February, May, August and November in each and every year. In accordance with a clause in the will of the testator, the bond was registered in the name of "The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina," and the first check for quarterly interest issued after the bond passed into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, was sent to him on the first day of November last, payable to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, was sent on in due course for collection, endorsed by the Grand Treasurer for the Grand Lodge, but was returned to the Bank sending the same, as not being properly endorsed; it will be necessary for the Grand Lodge to designate some person to receive the interest quarterly, and provide for the issue of a certificate under the seal of the Grand Lodge, authorizing him to endorse and collect checks sent by the government for the interest.

With the exception of this legacy left by Hon. B. F. Moore, there have been no accessions to the Orphan Asylum endowment fund within the past year.

I have paid to brother J. H. Mills, Superintendent of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, the sum of five hundred dollars received from Rev. L. M. Pease for property reconveyed to him by the Grand Lodge; in addition to this amount I have paid him fifteen hundred dollars of the regular appropriation made at the last Annual Communication, which is five hundred dollars less than the amount appropriated.

In the absence of any further specific instructions, I have kept the Orphan Asylum buildings insured for the amount for which they were originally insured, to-wit: ten thousand dollars. Shortly after the last Annual Communication the buildings of the Asylum took fire, and were damaged to the extent of fifty dollars, which amount was promptly paid by the companies insuring, at an expense, however, to the Grand Lodge of one-half of the cost of the survey of an expert, viz.: twelve dollars and a half.

By resolution of the Grand Lodge passed 5th December, 1878, the Grand Treasurer was authorized to procure suitable pins for attaching the jewels to the lapels of the coats of the Grand Officers; also a more appropriate jewel for the Grand Master. The jewels have been very neatly arranged with pins and ribbons, at an expense of thirty dollars, and a beautiful jewel for the Grand Master, made of gold and precious stones, and handsomely mounted, at a cost of one hundred dollars; the jewel shows for itself and is a beautiful work of art, and as it will last for all time, and will always be a credit to the Grand Lodge, it would seem to justify an outlay which could not be curtailed without procuring an inferior jewel.

Until recently the Grand Lodge has not paid its proportion of the rent of the halls in joint occupancy with the subordinate Lodges in this city, since the year 1876; within a few days past the Treasurer of Wm. G. Hill Lodge, No. 218, which Lodge has been acting as agent for the occupants, presented his account for the rent for years 1877, 1878 and 1879, which together with the proportion of gas bills agreed to be paid by the Grand Lodge, amounts to two hundred and ninety-four dollars; the bill has been paid and the voucher will be found among my accounts. This explanation is made to account for so large a charge for rent and gas.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. ANDERSON,
Grand Treasurer.

Committees on Suspensions and Expulsions were announced as follows :

No. 1.—Bre. George W. Blount, P. G. M., B. F. Bullock, Jr., and Robert T. Gray.

No. 2.—Bre. Horace H. Munson, P. G. M., James C. MacRae and W. P. Williams.

A communication was received from Mr. L. L. Polk, Commissioner of Agriculture, inviting the members of this body to visit and inspect the Agricultural Museum at such time as may be convenient, during this Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Eugene Grissom, P. D. G. M., the invitation was accepted with the thanks of this body, and the request that its members personally visit the department as may be convenient to them.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 10 O'CLOCK,
December 3d, A. L. 5879, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The proceedings of last evening's session were read and approved.

M. W. John Nichols, P. G. M., appeared and occupied his seat.

The report of Bro. J. H. Mills, Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum, was presented, read and referred to the Committee on the Orphan Asylum.

REPORT ON THE ORPHAN ASYLUM :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

At the last Annual Communication, one hundred and twenty-five orphans were reported present. Since that report sixty-eight have been admitted, making one hundred and ninety-three. Of these, thirty-four have been discharged to engage in useful employments. Fifteen have been adopted by childless parties, who take them as their own children. Four have run away, because they came too late in life, and could not endure wholesome restraint. Two have died; Spencer Corbett, of Pitt, lingered several months with dropsy, and fell asleep on the twelfth of September. Viola Mullins, of Wake, constitutionally scrofulous, suffering intense pain from an abscess in the head, and was relieved by death on the fourteenth of November. The present number is one hundred and thirty-eight. These are in good health, with the exception of those who still suffer from the malaria of their former homes, and a small but increasing number who have recently taken the whooping-cough, a disease often fatal to those who are delicate and feeble.

The main building of the Orphan Asylum is in the shape of the letter T. The rear of the Chapel represents the bottom of the letter. And of course there are two valleys in the roof. During several years (when the building was unoccupied and neglected) ice accumulated in the valley running towards the north, made holes in the tin roof and turned a stream of water upon the plate, which was thereby rotted. The layer of brick between the plate and the chimney, being no longer held in place, fell to the bottom, and allowed the sparks to reach the wood-work. So it happened that one day last winter, while a chimney was burning, the roof on both sides of the north valley, was found to be on fire. Many friends and neighbors came to the assistance of the orphans, and extinguished the flames. The insurance companies estimated the damages at fifty dollars. It was thought best to cut away the wood around all the ten chimneys, fill the spaces with brick and mortar, repair the entire roof and protect it with a heavy coat of fire-proof paint. On the high part of the rear building also, the old shingles were removed, and a new tin roof and coat of paint put on. The lower part of this building is covered with new shingles, and made easily accessible by a supply of long cedar ladders, made for the purpose, of lumber hauled from the head waters of Tar River. These improvements, in connection with barrels of water located near all the important

buildings, furnish more than the usual protection against fire, and ought to secure insurance at the lowest possible per cent.

With the advice of the Grand Master, who, by frequent visits and close inspection, has acquainted himself with the management and wants of the institution, a handsome two-story building, eighteen by forty feet, has been erected and furnished with iron bedsteads and comfortable bedding. We now have an attractive hospital, where the sick, separate from all others, and convenient to several springs of excellent water, may enjoy quiet and freedom from every outside disturbance.

During the latter part of last winter the fences were so moved and extended as to enclose about forty acres of land for cultivation; but a drought which began in early spring, and still continues, very greatly diminished the anticipated crops. The winter crops are growing well at present, and the land is ready for enlarged operations in the spring.

The receipts in cash have been liberal, especially after the people were informed that increased supplies were essential to the comfort of the orphans. Our expenses have averaged about five dollars a month on each orphan.

Cash on hand at last report.....	\$ 63.59
Cash received during the year.....	9,446.25
Total.....	<u>\$9,509.84</u>
Disbursed.....	<u>9,233.06</u>
Leaving on hand.....	\$ 271.78

Besides this sum, the Grand Treasurer still holds five hundred dollars of the two thousand appropriated by the Grand Lodge. As we have so far been able to do without this amount, it seems to be best to leave it in his hands to be used hereafter in cases of accident or emergency. The receipts in kind have also been liberal, and the supplies on hand sufficient for present necessities.

The books and vouchers are present for examination and inspection. Also a roll of the Lodges with the amounts contributed by them as Lodges. Some Lodges, however, contributed mainly in kind. Some individuals also have given many times more than their Lodges.

The bequest of one thousand dollars by Hon. B. F. Moore, the appropriation of three thousand dollars a year by the Representatives of the people in the Legislature assembled, the liberal contributions of churches, lodges, benevolent societies, and individuals living within and without our borders, the unvarying kindness of railroad and express officers, proprietors of hotels and editors of papers and magazines, all declare that our noble people have in their hearts determined that the Orphan Asylum shall be a permanent institution and a lasting blessing to the children of the State. "So mote it be."

J. H. MILLS,
Superintendent.

Bro. George W. Blount, P. G. M., from the Committee on the Grand Master's address, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master beg leave to report, that, besides having listened to it with deep interest and great pleasure, they have carefully considered the same and commend it as a whole to the body of Masons throughout the State, in the hope that the wise counsels, timely suggestions and truly fraternal spirit, may find responsive echo in the hearts of Masons everywhere, and that hands may be moved to *do* in harmony with these promptings.

There are some matters embraced in the address which demand a fuller consideration than could be given by this committee; they, therefore, suggest reference: 1. Of that portion which refers to decisions and Grand Master's prerogative, to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

2. That in regard to work and Grand Lecturers, to a select committee of three.

3. That in reference to additional standing committees, to a select committee.

4. That in reference to non-affiliation, to a select committee.

5. That in reference to the Orphan Asylum, to the Orphan Asylum Committee.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

G. W. BLOUNT,
For Committee.

Standing Committees were announced as follows :

On Charters and Dispensations:

Bre. Samuel H. Rountree, P. J. G. W., Bernice Walker and James C. Munds.

On Work, Proceedings and Returns of Subordinate Lodges:

No. 1.—Bre. George S. Baker, J. M. Sutton and L. W. Hancock.

No. 2.—Bre. Blair Burwell, William N. Benton and W. D. Jones.

No. 3.—Bre. F. H. Glover, John M. Fleming and J. A. Briggs.

No. 3, on Suspensions and Expulsions:

Bre. W. T. Kennedy, Dudley Peed and E. H. White.

On Unfinished Business :

Bre. C. H. Robinson, T. C. Worth and John W. Cotten.

On Accounts and Claims :

Bre. J. B. Neathery, Charles H. Robinson and C. M. Rogers.

On Propositions and Grievances :

Bre. James G. Ramsay, S. C. Dodson and J. C. L. Harris.

On Grand Secretary's Books and Report :

Bre. Dennis Curtis, W. R. Stephenson and W. H. Smith.

The following special committees on subjects embraced in the Grand Master's address, as recommended by the committee on the address, were announced as follows:

Grand Lecturers and Work :

Bre. H. H. Munson, P. G. M., R. W. Best, P. G. M., and Thomas S. Kenau, P. D. G. M.

Standing Committees :

Bre. W. T. Kennedy, James S. Grant and John W. Smith.

Orphan Asylum :

Bre. John Nichols, P. G. M., George W. Blount, P. G. M., Eugene Grissom, P. D. G. M., James C. Munds, A. H. A. Williams, M. L. Winston, John W. Cotten and T. P. Braswell.

Bro. James C. Munds introduced the following resolution, which was read :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the advisability of establishing an insurance feature under the direction of this Grand Lodge.

The resolution was adopted, and Bre. J. C. Munds, A. L. Parker and J. C. L. Harris were appointed the committee therein provided.

Reports of standing committees were submitted as follows and adopted :

No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee No. 2 on Suspensions and Expulsions beg leave to report, that they have examined transcripts of the proceedings of the following Lodges, to-wit:

Jonesville, No. 227, case of W. J. Leonard, sentence, indefinite suspension ;
 Lee, No. 253, case of M. A. Hollar, sentence, expulsion ;
 Scotland Neck, No. 68, case of R. J. White, sentence, expulsion ;
 Colesville, No. 278, case of S. M. Hughes, sentence, suspension twelve months ;
 Atlantic, No. 238, case of W. H. James, sentence, indefinite suspension ;
 all of which decisions we recommend be affirmed.

We also recommend that the case of J. M. Siffert and Benton Ludwick, Eureka, No. 283, be sent back for a new trial, the proceedings being irregular and not in accordance with Article XIV of Masonic Code.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. H. MUNSON,
For Committee.

No. 1, on Suspensions and Expulsions:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee No. 1, on Suspensions and Expulsions, report examination of records of proceedings in cases as follows:

1. St. John's Lodge, No. 1, *vs.* W. P. Holland, indefinite suspension, sustained.
2. Wayne Lodge, No. 112, *vs.* A. P. Holland, sustained.
3. Wayne Lodge, No. 112, *vs.* John F. Humphrey, sustained.
4. Concord Lodge, No. 58, *vs.* W. T. Gray, sustained. In the record of the proceedings of this case it does not appear that a vote was taken on the penalty as prescribed by the rules for the government of subordinate Lodges in trials, therefore, recommend that transcript be returned for amendment.
5. St. John's Lodge, No. 1, *vs.* J. W. Zimmerman, definite suspension, sustained.
6. Fair Bluff Lodge, No. 190, *vs.* Alexander Meares, expulsion, sustained.
7. Fair Bluff Lodge, No. 190, *vs.* W. J. Coleman, suspension, sustained.

Fraternally submitted,

G. W. BLOUNT,
 B. F. BULLOCK, JR.,
 R. T. GRAY,

Committee.

No. 3, on Work, Proceedings and Returns of Subordinate Lodges :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee No. 3, on Returns of Subordinate Lodges, beg leave to make the following report :

We have carefully examined the returns of fifty-three Lodges, from No. 303 to 363 inclusive, and two U. D., and find all correct except the following :

1. Randolph, No. 309 ; Craighead, No. 366, no seal.
2. Rock Spring, No. 341 ; Euno, No. 354 ; Iredell, No. 362, no date of charter.
3. Numa F. Reid, No. 344 ; Apex, No. 349 ; Acacia, No. 361, no date of charter nor seal.

Also we find Bayboro, No. 331, should read twenty-six members instead of twenty-five ; Rock Spring, No. 341, should read thirty instead of twenty-nine members ; Moravian, No. 353, should read nine members instead of seven ; Mount Mourne, No. 347, twenty-five members instead of twenty-two.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

F. H. GLOVER,
JOHN M. FLEMING,
J. A. BRIGGS,
Committee.

On Grand Secretary's Books and Report :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The committee to whom were referred the report and books of the Grand Secretary, beg leave to report that they have duly examined the same, and find that the books are kept in the most systematic and accurate manner, and that they correspond in every particular with his report submitted to this Grand Body.

Respectfully submitted,

D. CURTIS,
W. R. STEPHENSON,
W. H. SMITH,
Committee.

Bro. John W. Cotten moved that a committee be appointed to ascertain what Lodges had paid their entire indebtedness to this Grand Lodge, as annual dues.

The motion was adopted, and Bre. John W. Cotten, J. W. F. Rogers and Blair Burwell were appointed the committee.

The Grand Lodge received a communication from Mrs. H. S. Campbell, Secretary and Superintendent of the Raleigh Cooking School, Peace Institute, inviting the members and guests of the Grand Lodge to visit that school, announcing the hours from 3 to 5 o'clock on Wednesday, when the class will be open. The invitation was accepted unanimously by a rising vote, the members to attend individually, during the hours indicated, if convenient to them.

The following amendments to the Code were presented, read and postponed for consideration one day under the Code:

By Bro. W. P. Williams:

Resolved, That Article XIII, Section 5, (page 31) of the Code, be amended by adding after the word *expulsion*, in the first line, the words *when an appeal is taken*.

By Bro. H. H. Munson, P. G. M.:

Resolved, That Section 1 of Article XVIII, (page 41) of the Code, be so amended as to read: *shall not visit a Lodge or join in Masonic processions, or receive Masonic relief, assistance or burial*.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, 3 O'CLOCK,
December 3d, A. L. 5879, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The special committee on so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to Grand Lecturers and Work, submitted the following report, and, pending consideration, was postponed until to-morrow after the exemplification of work:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address upon the subject of Work and Grand Lecturers, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Master appoint one custodian for this jurisdiction, who shall have all the powers now conferred upon the Grand Lecturer, who shall serve for five years, unless sooner removed for cause by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master during the recess.

2. That the custodian so appointed may recommend such a number of Lecturers as he shall deem sufficient for the good of the order; and that such recommendation shall be accompanied by the certificate of the custodian as to their competency, who may thereupon be commissioned by the Grand Master, and who shall serve for two years, unless sooner removed by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master during the recess.

3. That for services rendered by the Lecturers they shall receive such compensation as may be agreed upon between them and the subordinate Lodges.

Respectfully submitted,

H. H. MUNSON,

R. W. BEST,

T. S. KENAN,

Committee.

Bro. J. S. Grant, from the special committee on so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to standing committees, submitted the following report :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your committee to whom that portion of the Grand Master's address in relation to the appointment of certain standing committees was referred, beg leave to report as follows :

That we fully concur with the suggestion of the Grand Master, and would recommend the adoption of the following regulation : That the committees on Propositions and Grievances, and on Suspensions and Expulsions, be standing committees, to be appointed by the Grand Master before the close of each Annual Communication. It shall be the duty of these committees to meet in the city of Raleigh at least one day before the assembling of the Grand Lodge, and all matters to come before them shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary ten days previous to the meeting of the Grand Lodge, and any Lodge or individual failing to comply with this regulation can only be heard by special permission of the Grand Lodge.

W. T. KENNEDY,

J. S. GRANT,

JOHN W. SMITH,

Committee.

Bro. J. C. L. Harris moved that the word *ten* before *days* be stricken out, and the word *thirty* inserted, which prevailed, and the report, as amended, was adopted.

Bro. George S. Baker, from Committee No. 1, on Work, Proceedings and Returns of Subordinate Lodges, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your committee beg leave to submit the following report : They have examined the returns of seventy-one Lodges, and find the following irregularities, to-wit :

Eagle, No. 71, without date of charter or seal.

The following incomplete as to date of charter, giving only the year without the month or day of date : Hall Lodge, No. 53 ; Kilwinning, No. 64 ; White Stone, No. 155 ; Gatesville, No. 126 ; Mill Creek, No. 125 ; Conoho, No. 131. Rolesville, No. 156, gives the year and month without the day of date charter.

The following we find without any date to charter : Mount Lebanon, No. 117 ; Wayne, No. 112 ; Archer, No. 165 ; Clinton, No. 124.

The following without seal of Lodge : Scotland Neck, No. 68 ; Widow's Son, No. 75 ; Franklinton, No. 123 ; King Solomon, No. 138.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

GEORGE S. BAKER,

J. M. SUTTON,

L. W. HANCOCK,

Committee.

Bro. H. H. Munson, from Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions, submit the following report :

In the case of James M. Davis from New Light, No. 215, it appearing from the evidence before the committee that the penalty (expulsion) is, under the circumstances, disproportioned to the offense, they recommend that the case be referred back to said Lodge for a new trial.

Farmington Lodge, No. 265, in case of Bro. J. H. Cash, specification, disregarding legal summons, acquitted ; W. M. Mock, sentence, indefinite suspen-

sion; A. J. Cranfield, sentence, expulsion; G. A. Hauser, sentence, indefinite suspension. We recommend that the action of the Lodge in these cases be confirmed.

H. H. MUNSON,
J. C. MACRAE,
A. H. A. WILLIAMS,
Committee.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening, at 7½ o'clock.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 7½ O'CLOCK,
December 3d, A. L. 5879, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Grand Master announced that the following brethren, representing sister Grand Lodges near this Grand Body, were in waiting to be received at the Grand East, to-wit:

M. W., Robert W. Best, P. G. M., Grand Lodges of Missouri and Brazil.

M. W., John Nichols, P. G. M., Grand Lodges of Wisconsin and Chili.

M. W., George W. Blount, P. G. M., Grand Lodge of Canada.

M. W., Horace H. Munson, P. G. M., Grand Lodge of Indiana.

R. W., Donald W. Bain, G. S., Grand Lodges of Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, New Jersey, Tennessee and Texas.

These brethren were escorted to the Grand East, introduced by the Grand Marshal and received with the Grand Honors, with an invitation from the Grand Master to the privileges of this Grand Body.

Bro. Fabius H. Busbee, representing the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, who was subsequently present, was accorded a fraternal welcome.

Reports were submitted by standing committees as follows and adopted:

No. 2, on Work, Proceedings and Returns of Subordinate Lodges:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee No. 2, on Work, Proceedings and Returns of Subordinate Lodges, have examined the returns from fifty-four Lodges, and find them correct, except Henderson, No. 229; Hunting Creek, No. 299; Mingo, No. 206; Stokesburg, No. 220; Dunn's Rock, No. 267; Excelsior, No. 261, and Sapona, No. 280, which have no date of charter.

Edgecombe, No. 298; Stokesburg, No. 220; French Broad, No. 292, have no seal.

Fraternally,

BLAIR BURWELL,
W. N. BENTON,
W. D. JONES,

Committee.

*On Unfinished Business :**To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :*

The Committee on Unfinished Business beg leave to report the following :

An amendment to Article VII, of the By-Laws, was introduced at the last Annual Communication by Bro. John W. Cotten, and postponed to this Annual Communication. (See page 59 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.)

A resolution was introduced by Bro. Mills, and a committee appointed to report to this Annual Communication. (See page 34 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.)

We find no other unfinished business. We have examined the records of the Grand Secretary and commend the accuracy and neatness with which they are kept.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

C. H. ROBINSON,
JOHN W. COTTEN,
T. C. WORTH,

Committee.

*On Accounts and Claims :**To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina .*

The Committee on the Books and Vouchers of the Grand Treasurer beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the same, and find them correct.

We cheerfully add our testimony to that of former committees as to the accurate and beautiful manner in which the accounts are kept.

Fraternally submitted,

J. B. NEATHERY,
C. M. ROGERS,
C. H. ROBINSON,

Committee.

*On Charters and Dispensations :**To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :*

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations have examined the proceedings of the following Lodges, U. D., viz.:

Mount Pisgah Lodge, Mount Pisgah, Chatham county ;

Air-Line Lodge, Gastonia, Gaston county ;

and recommend that charters be issued to the Lodges.

In the matter of application of Mount Pisgah Lodge, for the use of the property of the late Manuel Fetter Lodge, No. 275, they recommend the petition be not granted.

Fraternally submitted,

SAMUEL H. ROUNTREE,

JAMES C. MUNDS,

B. WALKER,

Committee.

Charters were issued to Lodges with numbers as follows:

Mount Pisgah, Chatham county, No. 368.

Air-Line, Gaston county, No. 369.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum and Grand Officers, under the superintendence of Bre. Thomas C. Worth, J. C. L. Harris and J. G. Rose.

Bro. J. H. Mills was unanimously elected Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum.

The following were elected Grand Officers :

WILLIAM R. COX, - - - - *Grand Master.*

CHARLES W. ALEXANDER, - *Senior Grand Warden.*

HENRY F. GRAINGER, - - - *Junior Grand Warden.*

WILLIAM E. ANDERSON, - - *Grand Treasurer.*

DONALD W. BAIN, - - - - *Grand Secretary.*

Bro. F. H. Busbee presented the following amendment to the Constitution of this body, which was read and postponed for consideration one day under the Code :

Be it resolved by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, F. A. M., (two-thirds of the Lodges of this jurisdiction concurring) That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended as follows :

Article II. Insert after Section 2,

SECTION 3. A Deputy Grand Master shall be annually chosen, to-wit: at the Annual Communication by a majority of written votes, and must be a Past Master.

In Section 4, line 1, strike out the word Deputy.

Re-number Sections 3 to 7.

Bro. F. H. Busbee introduced the following resolution, which was read and postponed until to-morrow morning at 10½ o'clock :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, does hereby constitute under its seal, William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer, its lawful agent and representative to receive from the United States government the interest due, or which may hereafter become due, on all registered bonds, especially bond number 28,647, of date May 1st, 1871, issued under act approved July 14, 1870, amended by an act approved January 20, 1871, series of 1878, funded loan of 1881, and the Grand Secretary is hereby directed to furnish said William E. Anderson a copy of this resolution, properly authenticated under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. H. F. Grainger, J. G. W., proposed an amendment to the By-Laws of this body as follows :

Resolved, That Section 1, of Article IV, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, be amended :

1. By striking out the word *first* in the second line, and inserting the word *third*.

2. By striking out the word *December* in the second line, and inserting *January*.

This amendment to be in force from and after the first day of February, 1880.

Bro. J. C. L. Harris moved that a committee of three be appointed to engage the services of a Past Grand Master to install the Grand Officers, at an hour to be designated, on to-morrow.

The motion prevailed, and Bre. J. C. L. Harris, J. C. Munds and R. C. Badger were appointed the committee.

Bro. S. H. Rountree, P. J. G. W., moved that the hour of noon to-morrow be set apart for the installation of Grand Officers, which prevailed.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning, at 9½ o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9½ O'CLOCK,
December 4th, A. L. 5879, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The proceedings of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

Reports of standing committees were submitted as follows :

By Bro. R. T. Gray, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. The report was read in part and referred to the Committee on Printing.

The committee having decided to publish the report it appears as Document No. 1, of the Appendix.

By the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances submitted the following report :

Bro. E. H. White and ten other brethren of Phalanx Lodge, No. 31, appealed from the decision of the Lodge in acquitting Bro. H. M. Ramseur, and ask that a new trial be ordered. We recommend that the appeal be dismissed for the following reasons :

1. Because the appeal being substantially against the Master of said Lodge, is not signed by a majority of the members of said Lodge, as required by Section 1, Article XVII, of the Masonic Code.

2. Because the remedy, if any, is by bringing charges against the Master in accordance with Section 2 of Article XVII, of the Masonic Code.

We recommend that the petition of J. J. Ward, James C. Williams, V. N. Seawell, J. W. Mallard, E. W. Teachy, Dickson S. Register, E. A. Benton, Stephen Wilkins, Samuel J. Boon and J. P. Brice, asking a remission of dues owing Rehoboth Lodge, No. 279, which is now extinct, be granted, as the parties named desire to organize a new Lodge.

We recommend that each of the Lodges asking a remission of dues, and whose petition is not granted in this report, have until the next Annual Communication to pay the Grand Lodge dues.

It is recommended that the dues of the members of Elmwood Lodge, No. 246, owing by them to their Lodge at the time said Lodge ceased to exist, be remitted.

It is recommended that Caldwell Lodge, No. 180, be charged with dues for 1877, 1878 and 1879, on twenty-five members, as twenty-six members were stricken off for non-payment of dues in October, 1877, and that the Lodge have until the next Annual Communication to pay Grand Lodge dues.

Gatesville Lodge, No. 126, and Holly Grove Lodge, No. 252, ask to be allowed to consolidate with Jordan Lodge, No. 184, retaining the name and number of Jordan Lodge. This can be done by a surrender of the charter of the two Lodges, Nos. 126 and 252, and their members conforming to the Code as in cases of members of extinct or dormant Lodges. If these Lodges see fit to take this course it is recommended that their petition be granted.

J. G. RAMSAY,
S. C. DODSON,
J. C. L. HARRIS,
Committee.

Bro. James C. Munds, from the committee to consider the advisability of establishing an insurance feature in connection with this Grand Body, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your committee appointed to consider the advisability of establishing an insurance feature, report that they find it impossible to make a report to this communication of the Grand Lodge. They, therefore, ask that the committee be continued, with permission to report at the next Annual Communication.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES C. MUNDS,
J. C. L. HARRIS,
A. L. PARKER,
Committee.

Bro. George W. Blount, from the Committee on the Orphan Asylum, submitted the report of that committee, which was read.

Bro. James A. Leach moved to strike out paragraph IV, which recommends the re-establishment and publication of the *Orphan's Friend*.

Bro. H. H. Munson, P. G. M., moved as a substitute for the motion, that the re-establishment and publication of the *Orphan's Friend*, be referred to the Grand Master and Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum, to act according to their discretion.

A vote by Lodges was demanded upon the substitute, and the question having been taken, it was rejected. Yeas 50, nays 200.

The report of the committee was adopted, and is as follows :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on Orphan Asylum beg leave to report :

That the address of the Grand Master, the report of the Superintendent and the good reports of those not Masons, in regard to the conduct of the affairs of the Asylum, have had the careful consideration of your committee, and it is with no little pride that commendation is awarded ; and we hope no unpardonable pride is felt at the success which has attended the efforts of our worthy Superintendent in rescuing the poor orphan, and in commending the cause to the favorable consideration of all classes of our people. We feel now that it is an assured success, but with this feeling we would counsel more active interest by Lodges in its support under existing regulations.

Therefore, we recommend :

1. The continuance of the work without further legislation.
2. That we return thanks for the coöperation of all other organizations, civil and religious.
3. That an appropriation of two thousand dollars be made for its support from the funds of the Grand Lodge, to be paid to the Superintendent whenever and in whatever amounts he may require.
4. That we recommend the reëstablishment and publication of the *Orphan's Friend*, under the control of the Superintendent, with authority to employ such assistance for its conduct as he may deem proper.

We have examined the books and vouchers of the Superintendent and find all correct, showing accuracy, faithfulness and a wise economy, with a balance of funds on hand amounting to two hundred and seventy-one dollars, and seventy-eight cents, which was actually handed to the committee to count.

JOHN NICHOLS,
G. W. BLOUNT,
JAMES C. MUNDS,
T. P. BRASWELL,
M. L. WINSTON,
JOHN W. COTTEN,
A. H. A. WILLIAMS,

Committee.

Bro. J. C. L. Harris, from the committee to engage the services of a Past Grand Master to install the Grand Officers, reported that M. W., Past Grand Master Edwin G. Reade would be in attendance to perform those services at noon to-day.

The amendment of Bro. H. F. Grainger to Section 1, of Article IV, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, introduced last evening, was taken up, read, discussed, and, on motion of Bro. A. H. A. Williams, laid on the table.

M. W., Edwin G. Reade, P. G. M., appeared and occupied his seat.

Bro. B. C. Manly, from the committee on so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the Masonic Temple Association, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your committee appointed to investigate and report upon the Masonic Temple Association respectfully report, that they have investigated the affairs of said association as far as the limited time would permit, and find that they cannot make a satisfactory and intelligent report during this communication of the Grand Lodge, and recommend that a committee of five be appointed to sit during vacation and act with plenary powers in the premises, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master be *ex-officio* chairman of the committee.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

B. C. MANLY,

E. G. READE,

H. F. GRAINGER,

Committee.

The Grand Master appointed Bre. B. C. Manly, E. G. Reade, P. G. M., H. F. Grainger, J. G. W., and T. S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., the committee with himself, as provided in the foregoing report.

The Grand Master announced his appointments of Grand Officers, who, with those elected on last evening, were installed by M. W., Edwin G. Reade, P. G. M., assisted by Bro. John W. Cotten, Grand Marshal, and proclamation was duly made thereof.

ELECTED OFFICERS:

WILLIAM R. COX, - - - - *Grand Master.*
 CHARLES W. ALEXANDER, - *Senior Grand Warden.*
 HENRY F. GRAINGER, - - - *Junior Grand Warden.*
 WILLIAM E. ANDERSON, - - - *Grand Treasurer.*
 DONALD W. BAIN, - - - - *Grand Secretary.*

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

J. C. L. GUDGER, - - - - *Deputy Grand Master.*
 (Installed through Bro. J. G. Ramsay, proxy.)
 WILLIAM B. ROYAL, - - - - *Grand Chaplain.*
 (Installed through Bro. W. P. Williams, proxy.)
 CHARLES H. ROBINSON, - - - *Senior Grand Deacon.*
 WILLIAM T. KENNEDY, - - - *Junior Grand Deacon.*
 JOHN W. COTTEN, - - - - *Grand Marshal.*
 R. J. NOBLE, - - - - - *Grand Sword Bearer.*
 (Installed through Bro. T. T. Holland, proxy.)
 WILLIAM H. SMITH, - - - - *Grand Pursuivant.*
 JOHN M. FLEMING, } - - - *Grand Stewards.*
 JOHN T. SHUBRICK, }
 MILES GOODWIN, - - - - *Grand Tiler.*

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 3 O'CLOCK,
 December 4th, A. L. 5879, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The proceedings of this morning's session were read and approved.

The amendment to Section 1, of Article XVIII, of the By-Laws, (page 41 of the Code) introduced by Bro H. H. Munson, P. G. M., on yesterday morning, was taken up, read and rejected.

Bro. John W. Cotten, from the special committee to ascertain what Lodges had failed to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge, submitted a report, which was, on motion of Bro. Thomas S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., accepted and ordered to be filed with the Grand Secretary.

The amendment to Article VII, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, (page 24 of the Code) proposing to strike out the words *except by special permission*, in the third line from the last, introduced by Bro. John W. Cotten, at the last Annual Communication, (page 57, Proceedings of 1878,) was taken up for consideration. The same was read, and, after discussion, laid on the table.

Bro. E. H. White, from Committee No. 3, on Suspensions and Expulsions, submitted the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Committee No. 3, on Suspensions and Expulsions, beg leave to report:

That in the case of Howell Garriss, indefinitely suspended, from Lenoir Lodge, No. 233, it does not appear that he has been convicted of anything; having confessed his guilt, they voted only on his punishment. We recommend that the transcript of trial be returned to them for a more complete record, and that they be directed to conform to Article XIV, Section 6, of the Code.

George W. Stewart was expelled from Clinton Lodge, No. 107, March 1, 1879, for an assault upon a young and unprotected lady. His importunities became so flagrant, that for her own protection she applied to the civil law, when he was convicted and imprisoned. Although it does not appear that her character was above suspicion, yet enough was proved to show that his conduct was clearly unmasonic; and we recommend that his expulsion be affirmed.

In the case of Winton Lodge, No. 327, June 17, 1879, against G. T. Hollomon, we find the proceedings to be irregular, no evidence being offered as to guilt or innocence. Although it may be manifest to the brethren of Winton Lodge, that brother Hollomon is guilty as charged, yet they send no testimony to prove the same. Their transcript shows that they commenced voting as soon as the charge was read. We refer them to Article XIII, Section 6, and recommend that the transcript be returned for a more complete record.

Again, Winton Lodge No. 327, indefinitely suspended John W. Faison for immoral and unmasonic conduct. We approve of their judgment, and

recommend that it be affirmed. Here we would offer a word of caution to Winton Lodge, and say to them to be careful about admitting visitors on trials, except as counsel or witnesses. See Article XIV, Section 2, in both cases.

Joseph Warren Lodge, No. 92, expelled Bro. W. L. Randolph on the 20th day of December, 1878, for disobedience of legal summons. The proceedings are all regular, and we recommend that their action be affirmed.

Buffalo Lodge, No. 172, on the 8th day of November, 1879, suspended for twelve months, Bre. J. B. McFarland and Garner Watson. The proceedings are regular and in conformity to the Code, and in the first case, that of Bro. J. B. McFarland, we recommend that the sentence be affirmed; but in the latter, that of Garner Watson, we think the sentence too severe, and recommend that the judgment be reversed.

While we are not an advocate for so powerful an argument as a knock-down, yet we believe the act was justified by the language used.

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. KENNEDY,
DUDLEY PEED,
E. H. WHITE,

Committee

The report was read and adopted, except as to the case of Bro. G. T. Hollomon, from Winton Lodge, No. 327. The recommendation of the committee as to this case was not concurred in, and the action of the Lodge was confirmed.

Bro. Thomas S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., from the Committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom were submitted the decisions of the Grand Master, made during the past Masonic year, and reported in his annual address, have considered the same and recommend that they be approved by the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

THOMAS S. KENAN,

December 4, 1879.

For Committee.

The amendment to Section 5, of Article XIII, of the Code, introduced by Bro. W. P. Williams on yesterday morning, was taken up, read and rejected.

The amendment to the Constitution of this Body, relative to the office of Deputy Grand Master, introduced on last evening by Bro. F. H. Busbee, was taken up, read and laid on the table.

The resolution of Bro. F. H. Busbee, introduced on last evening, appointing the Grand Treasurer agent to collect the interest on United States bonds, was taken up, read and adopted.

The report of the special committee on so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to Grand Lecturers and Work, submitted on yesterday afternoon, was taken up, read and laid on the table.

Bro. Thomas S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Master is hereby authorized to have placed in the chapel of the Orphan Asylum, a Masonic emblem of such design as he may consider appropriate.

The Grand Master appointed the following standing committees:

On Jurisprudence:

Bre. Thomas S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., Edwin G. Reade, P. G. M., and Fabius H. Busbee, P. M.

On Foreign Correspondence:

Bre. Robert T. Gray, John B. Neathery, P. M., and Robert W. Hardie, P. S. G. W.

On Credentials:

Bre. Thomas C. Worth, N. B. Broughton and S. H. Smith.

On Printing:

Bre. W. E. Anderson, G. T., D. W. Bain, G. S., B. C. Manly, P. M.

On Suspensions and Expulsions:

No. 1.—Bre. George W. Blount, P. G. M., B. F. Bullock, Jr., and A. H. A. Williams.

No. 2.—Bre. Horace H. Munson, P. G. M., James C. MacRae and James A. Leach.

No. 3.—Bre. Eugene Grissom, P. D. G. M., Dudley Peed and James S. Battle, P. M.

On Propositions and Grievances:

Bre. James G. Ramsay, P. D. G. M., J. C. L. Harris and F. H. Glover.

The following resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Body hereby tenders its thanks to the authorities of the several transportation lines, and hotels and boarding houses of this city, for courtesies extended to the members of the Body.

The labors of this Annual Communication having been concluded, the proceedings of this afternoon's session were read and approved.

Prayer was offered by Bro. W. P. Williams, Grand Chaplain *pro tem.*, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

WILLIAM R. COX,

Grand Master.

ATTEST:

DONALD W. BAIN,

Grand Secretary.

LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.
St. John's.....	1	Wilmington,	New Hanover.
Royal White Hart,.....	2	Halifax,.....	Halifax.
St. John's,.....	3	New Berne,.....	Craven.
Charity,.....	5	Windsor,.....	Bertie.
Unanimity,.....	7	Edenton,	Chowan.
Phoenix,.....	8	Fayetteville,.....	Cumberland.
Johnston Caswell,.....	10	Warrenton,	Warren.
American George,.....	17	Murfreesboro,.....	Hertford.
Phalanx,.....	31	Charlotte,.....	Mecklenburg.
Stokes,.....	32	Concord,.....	Cabarrus.
William R. Davie,.....	37	Lexington,.....	Davidson.
Davie,	39	Roxabel.	Bertie.
Hiram,	40	Raleigh,	Wake.
Hall,.....	53	Indian Town,.....	Currituck.
King Solomon,.....	56	Jackson,	Northampton.
Concord,.....	58	Tarboro,	Edgecombe.
Perseverance,.....	59	Plymouth,	Washington.
Kilwinning,.....	64	Wadesboro,	Anson.
Scotland Neck,.....	68	Scotland Neck,	Halifax.
Eagle,.....	71	Hillsboro,	Orange.
Widow's Son,.....	75	Camden C. H.,.....	Camden.
Greensboro,.....	76	Greensboro,.....	Guilford.
Zion,.....	81	Trenton,.....	Jones.
LaFayette,	83	Jacksonville,.....	Onslow.
Fellowship,	84	Smithfield,.....	Johnston.
Morning Star,.....	85	Nashville,.....	Nash.
Skewarkey,	90	Williamston,	Martin.
Western Star,.....	91	Rutherfordton,	Rutherford.
Joseph Warren,.....	92	Stantonsburg,	Wilson.
Jerusalem,.....	95	Hookerton,	Greene.
St. John's,.....	96	Kinston,.....	Lenoir.
Wake Forest,.....	97	Dumnsville,	Wake.
Hiram,	98	Clinton,.....	Sampson.
Fulton,	99	Salisbury,	Rowan.
Warren,	101	Kenansville,	Duplin.
Columbus,.....	102	Pittsboro,	Chatham.
Orr,	104	Washington,	Beaufort.
Perquimans,.....	106	Hertford,	Perquimans.
Clinton,.....	107	Yanceyville,	Caswell.
Belmont,	108	Faison,	Duplin.
Franklin,	109	Beaufort,	Carteret.
Wayne,.....	112	Goldsboro,	Wayne.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.
St. Albans,.....	114	Lumberton,	Robeson.
Holly Spring,.....	115	Holly Spring,.....	Wake.
Mount Lebanon,.....	117	Wilson,	Wilson.
Mount Hermon,.....	118	Asheville,	Buncombe.
Logan,.....	121	Jamestown,.....	Guilford.
Tuscarora,	122	Oxford,.....	Granville.
Franklinton,.....	123	Franklinton,.....	Franklin.
Clinton,	124	Louisburg,.....	Franklin.
Mill Creek,.....	125	Newton Grove,.....	Sampson.
Gatesville,.....	126	Gatesville,	Gates.
Blackmer,	127	Mount Gilead,.....	Montgomery.
Hanks,.....	128	Franklinsville,	Randolph.
Dan River,.....	129	Madison,.....	Rockingham.
Conoho,.....	131	Hamilton,.....	Martin.
Radiance,.....	132	Snow Hill,.....	Greene.
Mocksville,.....	134	Mocksville,	Davie.
Leaksville,	136	Leaksville,	Rockingham.
Lincoln,.....	137	Lincolnton,.....	Lincoln.
King Solomon,.....	138	Burgaw,	Pender.
Mount Energy,.....	140	Mount Energy,	Granville.
Carolina,.....	141	Ansonville,.....	Anson.
Mount Vernon,.....	143	Ore Hill,.....	Chatham.
Junaluska,	145	Franklin,	Macon.
Cherokee,	146	Murphy,.....	Cherokee.
Palmyra,.....	147	Averasboro,	Harnett.
Adoniram,	149	Brownsville,	Granville.
Scotch Ireland,.....	154	Mount Vernon,.....	Rowan.
White Stone,.....	155	Wakefield,.....	Wake.
Rolesville,	156	Rolesville,	Wake.
Mount Pleasant,.....	157	Roger's Store,.....	Wake.
Knap of Reeds,.....	158	Knap of Reeds,.....	Granville.
Rock Rest,	161	Hadley's Mills,.....	Chatham.
Yadkin,	162	Yadkinville,	Yadkin.
Archer,.....	165	Clayton,	Johnston.
St. Paul's,	166	Point Caswell,.....	Pender.
Winston,.....	167	Winston,	Forsyth.
Pleasant Hill,.....	168	Patterson's Store,.....	Alamance.
Blackmer,.....	170	Weaverville,	Buncombe.
Delk,	171	Coleraine,	Bertie.
Buffalo,	172	Jonesboro,	Moore.
George Washington,.....	174	Green Level,.....	Chatham.
Pollokville,.....	175	Pollokville,.....	Jones.
Mecklenburg,.....	176	Davidson College,.....	Mecklenburg.
Siloam,.....	178	Harrell's Store,.....	Sampson.
Caldwell,.....	180	Chapel Hill,.....	Orange.
Jordan,.....	184	Reynoldson,.....	Gates.
Sandy Creek,.....	185	Laurel,	Franklin.
Pine Forest,.....	186	Harrington,.....	Harnett.
Central Cross,.....	187	Peachtree Grove,.....	Nash.
Balfour,.....	188	Ashboro,	Randolph.
Fair Bluff,.....	190	Fair Bluff,.....	Columbus.
Granite,.....	191	Clayton,	Johnston.
Burnsville,	192	Burnsville,	Yancey.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.
Falkland,.....	196	Falkland,.....	Pitt.
Cary,.....	198	Cary,.....	Wake.
Eagle Rock,.....	201	Eagle Rock,.....	Wake.
Cleaveland,.....	202	Shelby,.....	Cleaveland.
Roanoke,.....	203	Weldon,.....	Halifax.
Berea,.....	204	Oxford,.....	Granville.
Mingo,.....	206	Hawley's Store,.....	Sampson.
Lebanon,.....	207	Whiteville,.....	Columbus.
Mount Olive,.....	208	Mount Olive,.....	Wayne.
New Salem,.....	209	New Salem,.....	Randolph.
Eno,.....	210	Durham,.....	Orange.
Ashland,.....	211	Mount Airy,.....	Surry.
Richland,.....	214	Thomasville,.....	Davidson.
New Light,.....	215	Grissom,.....	Granville.
Catawba Valley,.....	217	Morganton,.....	Burke.
William G. Hill,.....	218	Raleigh,.....	Wake.
Stokesburg,.....	220	Walnut Cove,.....	Stokes.
Webster,.....	222	Elevation,.....	Johnston.
County Line,.....	224	County Line,.....	Davie.
Haw River,.....	225	Oak Ridge,.....	Guilford.
Wilson,.....	226	Olin,.....	Iredell.
*Jonesville,.....	227	Elkin, (Surry).....	Yadkin.
McCormick,.....	228	Jonesboro,.....	Moore.
Henderson,.....	229	Henderson,.....	Granville.
Corinthian,.....	230	Rocky Mount,.....	Nash.
William T. Bain,.....	231	Raleigh,.....	Wake.
Lenoir,.....	233	LaGrange,.....	Lenoir.
Anchor,.....	234	Auburn,.....	Wake.
Cokesbury,.....	235	Chalk Level,.....	Harnett.
Atlantic,.....	238	Currituck C. H.,.....	Currituck.
Wicacon,.....	240	Harrellsville,.....	Hertford.
Loch Lomond,.....	242	Shoe Heel,.....	Robeson.
*Rountree,.....	243	Bell's Ferry, (Lenoir).....	Pitt.
Monroe,.....	244	Monroe,.....	Union.
New Berne,.....	245	New Berne,.....	Craven.
Pythagoras,.....	249	Smithville,.....	Brunswick.
Shiloh,.....	250	Sassafras Fork,.....	Granville.
Rockford,.....	251	Rockford,.....	Surry.
Holly Grove,.....	252	Gatesville,.....	Gates.
Lee,.....	253	Taylorsville,.....	Alexander.
Mount Bethel,.....	254	Aspen Grove,.....	Rockingham.
Oaks,.....	255	Oaks,.....	Orange.
Beulah,.....	257	Pine Level,.....	Johnston.
*Harnett,.....	258	Raleigh, (Wake).....	Harnett.
Waynesville,.....	259	Waynesville,.....	Haywood.
Centre Hill,.....	260	Wardville,.....	Chowan.
Excelsior,.....	261	Charlotte,.....	Mecklenburg.
High Briton,.....	262	Lenoir,.....	Caldwell.
Gaston,.....	263	Dallas,.....	Gaston.
Farmington,.....	265	Farmington,.....	Davie.
Durbin,.....	266	Blockersville,.....	Cumberland.
Dunn's Rock,.....	267	Brevard,.....	Transylvania.
East Bend,.....	269	East Bend,.....	Yadkin.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.
Tabasco,	271	Gibsonville,	Guilford.
Mebaneville, ..	272	Mebaneville,	Alamance.
Watauga,	273	Boone,	Watauga.
St. Patrick's,	274	Princeton,	Johnston.
Beaver Dam,	276	Beaver Dam,	Union.
Green Level,	277	Green Level,	Wake.
Colesville,	278	Colesville,	Stokes.
Sapona,	280	Egypt,	Chatham.
Richard Watt York,	281	Hanks' Chapel,	Chatham.
Forestville,	282	Forestville,	Wake.
Eureka,	283	China Grove,	Rowan.
Greenville,	284	Greenville,	Pitt.
Castalia,	286	Castalia,	Nash.
Eureka,	288	Company Shops,	Alamance.
Salem,	289	Salem,	Forsyth.
French Broad,	292	Marshall,	Madison.
Vance,	293	Morgan Hill,	Buncombe.
Atlantic,	294	Swan Quarter,	Hyde.
Stonewall,	296	Robersonville,	Martin.
Edgecombe,	298	Toisnot,	Wilson.
Hunting Creek,	299	Eagle Mills,	Iredell.
Lillington,	302	Harnett C. H.,	Harnett.
Evergreen,	303	Johnsonville,	Harnett.
*Pleasant Hill,	304	Pink Hill, (Lenoir)...	Jones.
Laurinburgh,	305	Laurinburgh,	Richmond.
Galatia,	306	Fayetteville,	Cumberland.
Patterson,	307	Mount Pleasant,	Cabarrus.
Randolph,	309	El Dorado,	Randolph.
Hatcher,	310	Wilson,	Wilson.
Notla,	312	Murphy,	Cherokee.
King Solomon,	313	Lumber Bridge,	Robeson.
New Lebanon,	314	South Mills,	Camden.
Kinston,	316	Kinston,	Lenoir.
Eureka,	317	Elizabeth City,	Pasquotank.
Monatau,	318	Prestonville,	Stokes.
Wilmington,	319	Wilmington,	New Hanover.
Selma,	320	Selma,	Johnston.
White Hill,	321	Craines Creek,	Moore.
Granite,	322	Mount Airy,	Surry.
Danbury,	323	Danbury,	Stokes.
Wentworth,	324	Wentworth,	Rockingham.
Falling Creek,	325	Goldsboro,	Wayne.
Sandy Creek,	326	Sandy Creek,	Randolph.
Winton,	327	Winton,	Hertford.
Mattamuskeet,	328	Engelhard,	Hyde.
Fayetteville,	329	Fayetteville,	Cumberland.
Black Creek,	330	Black Creek,	Wilson.
Bayboro,	331	Bayboro,	Pamlico.
Goldsboro,	332	Goldsboro,	Wayne.
Lock's Creek,	333	Fayetteville,	Cumberland.
Roman Eagle,	334	Reidsville,	Rockingham.
Ash Pole,	335	Red Banks,	Robeson.
Ionic,	337	Kittrell,	Granville.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.
Palmyra,.....	338	Palmyra,.....	Halifax.
Fairview,	339	King's Mountain,.....	Cleaveland,
Harmony,	340	Pikeville,.....	Wayne.
Rock Spring,	341	Denver,	Lincoln.
Cedar Fork,.....	342	Morrisville,	Wake.
Hickory,.....	343	Hickory,.....	Catawba.
Numa F. Reid,.....	344	High Point,.....	Guilford.
Snow Creek,	345	Snow Creek,.....	Iredell.
Trap Hill,.....	346	Trap Hill,	Wilkes.
Mount Mourne,.....	347	Mount Mourne,.....	Iredell.
Stanly,	348	Albermarle,	Stanly.
Apex,	349	Apex,	Wake.
Mount Moriah,.....	350	Battleboro,	Nash.
Enfield,	351	Enfield,	Halifax.
Durham,	352	Durham,	Orange.
Moravian,.....	353	Moravian Falls,.....	Wilkes.
Euno,	354	New Hill,.....	Wake.
Dellaplane,.....	355	Dellaplane,.....	Wilkes.
Double Shoal,	356	Cleaveland Mills,.....	Cleaveland.
Bakersville,.....	357	Bakersville,.....	Mitchell.
East La Porte,.....	358	East La Porte,.....	Jackson.
Mount Vernon,	359	Stonewall,.....	Pamlico.
Mayon,.....	360	Ammon,.....	Bladen.
Acacia,.....	361	Belle Voir,.....	Chatham.
Iredell,.....	362	Mooresville,	Iredell.
Snow,	363	Sugar Grove,.....	Watauga.
Cumberland,	364	Gray's Creek,.....	Cumberland.
Marlboro,	365	Marlboro,	Pitt.
Craighead,.....	366	Huntersville,.....	Mecklenburg.
Jachin,.....	367	Clarkton,	Bladen.
Mount Pisgah,.....	368	Williams' Mill,.....	Chatham.
Air-Line,.....	369	Gastonia,.....	Gaston.

*The name in parenthesis indicates the county in which the post office of the Lodge is located.

STATEMENT

OF THE TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS OF LODGES
IN THIS JURISDICTION.

The asterisk before certain Lodges indicates that the dates of Regular Communications are taken from last returns received previous to the year 1879.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
St. John's,.....	1	Last Thursday evening.
Royal White Hart,.....	2	Second Wednesday morning, June 24, Dec. 27.
St. John's,.....	3	Second Wednesday evening.
Charity,	5	First Monday evening, June 24, Dec. 27 and first Monday of Court.
Unanimity,.....	7	First Tuesday evening, Monday of Court, June 24 and December 27.
Phoenix,.....	8	First and third Friday evenings, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Johnston Caswell,.....	10	First Friday.
American George,.....	17	First Saturday evening.
Phalanx,.....	31	Second and fourth Monday evenings.
*Stokes,.....	32	Last Friday, June 24 and 27.
William R. Davie,.....	37	Friday afternoon before full moon, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Davie,.....	39	Third Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Hiram,	40	Third Monday evening, June 24, Dec. 27.
Hall,	53	First Saturday morning.
King Solomon,.....	56	First Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Concord,	58	First Friday evening, third Saturday morning.
Perseverance,.....	59	First and third Tuesdays.
Kilwinning,	64	Monday night on or before full moon.
Scotland Neck,	68	First Saturday morning and third Saturday evening.
Eagle,.....	71	First Friday evening.
Widow's Son,.....	75	Third Saturday at 10 o'clock A. M.
Greensboro,.....	76	Saturday evening, before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Zion,.....	81	Third Saturday.
*La Fayette,.....	83	Third Saturday.
Fellowship,.....	84	Second Saturday, first Tuesday evening of Court.
Morning Star,.....	85	Fourth Saturday.
Skewarkey,.....	90	Second Tuesday and Tuesday evening of Court.
Western Star,.....	91	First Monday evening, Tuesday of Court, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Joseph Warren,.....	92	First Thursday.
Jerusalem,.....	95	Second Saturday.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS
St. John's,.....	96	Second Wednesday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Wake Forest,.....	97	Saturday before second Sunday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Hiram,.....	98	Third Friday.
*Fulton,.....	99	Every Friday evening.
Warren,.....	101	Thursday before second Sunday.
*Columbus,.....	102	First Tuesday, and Tuesday of Court.
*Orr,.....	104	First and third Tuesdays, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Perquimans,.....	106	Every Monday evening, June 24, Dec. 27.
Clinton,.....	107	Second Saturday, June 24, Dec. 27, Tuesday evening of Court.
Belmont,.....	108	First Saturday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Franklin,.....	109	Last Thursday evening.
Wayne,.....	112	First and third Monday evenings.
St. Albans,.....	114	First and third Fridays.
Holly Spring,.....	115	Saturday before fourth Sunday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Mount Lebanon,.....	117	Every Monday evening, second Thursday.
Mount Hermon,.....	118	Thursday evening on or before full moon.
*Logan,.....	121	Saturday on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Tuscarora,.....	122	First Monday evening; in December on second Monday evening.
Franklinton,.....	123	Second Saturday at 7 o'clock P. M., and last Saturday at 2 o'clock P. M.
Clinton,.....	124	First Thursday and third Saturday.
Mill Creek,.....	125	First Friday at 10 o'clock A. M.
Gatesville,.....	126	Friday before second Sunday.
Blackmer,.....	127	Friday before full moon at 2 o'clock P. M.
Hanks,.....	128	Third Saturday evening, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Dan River,.....	129	Saturday before second Sunday at 1 o'clock P. M.
Conoho,.....	131	First Wednesday at 2 P. M., third Wednesday at 7 P. M.
Radiance,.....	132	Third Saturday at 11 o'clock A. M.
Mocksville,.....	134	Third Friday evening, Tuesday evening of Court week, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Leaksville,.....	136	Saturday evening before each full moon.
Lincoln,.....	137	First Monday evening, Monday evening of Court week, June 24, Dec. 27.
King Solomon,.....	138	Second Saturday at 10 o'clock A. M.
Mount Energy,.....	140	First Saturday at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24, Dec. 27.
Carolina,.....	141	First Friday after full moon.
Mount Vernon,.....	143	Saturday before third Sunday.
Junaluska,.....	145	First and third Tuesday evenings, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Cherokee,.....	146	First and second Monday evenings.
Palmyra,.....	147	Third Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Adoniran,.....	149	Saturday before second Sunday.
Scotch Ireland,.....	154	Friday on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
White Stone,.....	155	Fourth Saturday at 11 o'clock A. M.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Rolesville,	156	First Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Mount Pleasant,	157	Saturday before first Sunday at 2 o'clock P. M.
Knap of Reeds,	158	Saturday before third Sunday at 2 o'clock P. M., Dec. 27.
Rock Rest,	161	Second Saturday, Dec. 27.
Yadkin,	162	On Saturday night after full moon.
Archer,	165	First Saturday, June 24, Dec. 27.
*St. Paul's,	166	Friday before first Sunday.
Winston,	167	Second Saturday evening, Tuesday evening of Court, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Pleasant Hill,	168	First Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Blackmer,	170	Saturday on or before each full moon, June 24, and Dec. 27 at 2 o'clock P. M.
Delk,	171	Saturday before third Sunday.
Buffalo,	172	Second Saturday evening.
George Washington,	174	Saturday before second Sunday, Dec. 27.
Pollokville,	175	First Wednesday.
Mecklenburg,	176	First Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Siloam,	178	Fourth Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Caldwell,	180	Saturday before full moon at 7 o'clock P. M.
*Jordan,	184	First Saturday morning.
Sandy Creek,	185	First Saturday at 1 o'clock P. M.
Pine Forest,	186	Saturday evening before full moon.
Central Cross,	187	Second Saturday and Dec. 27.
Balfour,	188	Wednesday evening before full moon, Wednesday evening of Court.
Fair Bluff,	190	Second Saturday at 1 o'clock P. M., Dec. 27.
Granite,	191	Third Saturday.
Burnsville,	192	Thursday before full moon at 6 o'clock P. M., Tuesday of Court, June 24, Dec. 27.
Falkland,	196	Saturday before third Sunday, at 11 A. M.
Cary,	198	Saturday evening before second Sunday.
Eagle Rock,	201	Third Saturday.
Cleveland,	202	Friday evening before full moon, June 24 and Dec. 27 at 10 o'clock A. M.
Roanoke,	203	First Thursday at 8 o'clock P. M., and third Thursday at 11 o'clock A. M.
Berea,	204	Saturday before fourth Sunday, June 24 and December 27 at 3 o'clock P. M.
Mingo,	206	First Saturday.
Lebanon,	207	Saturday at 7½ P. M. on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Mount Olive,	208	Thursday before fourth Sunday, June 24, December 27.
New Salem,	209	Saturday evening after full moon, June 24 and December 27.
*Eno,	210	Fourth Saturday.
Ashland,	211	Saturday evening after full moon, June 24, December 27.
Richland,	214	Saturday before full moon, June 24, December 27.
New Light,	215	Third Saturday at 2 o'clock P. M.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Catawba Valley,.....	217	On full moon, June 24, December 27.
William G. Hill,.....	218	Second and fourth Mondays, Dec. 27.
Stokesburg,.....	220	First Saturday, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Webster,.....	222	Saturday before fourth Sunday.
County Line,.....	224	Saturday before full moon, at 4 o'clock P. M., June 24 and December 27.
*Haw River,.....	225	First Saturday, at 2 P. M., after each full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Wilson,.....	226	Thursday evening on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Jonesville,	227	Saturday evening, on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
*McCormick,	228	Third Saturday.
Henderson,	229	Second Thursday, at 7 o'clock P. M.
Corinthian,.....	230	First Thursday evening.
William T. Bain,.....	231	Saturday before third Sunday, June 24 and December 27.
Lenoir,	233	First Saturday.
Anchor,	234	Saturday before second Sunday.
Cokesbury,	235	Saturday before first Sunday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Atlantic,	238	Fourth Saturday, December 27.
Wicacon,	240	Fourth Saturday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Loch Lomond,.....	242	First Friday morning.
Rountree,	243	First Saturday morning.
Monroe,.....	244	First and third Friday evenings, June 24 and December 27.
New Berne,.....	245	Third Wednesday.
Pythagoras,	249	First Thursday.
Shiloh,	250	Second Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
Rockford,.....	251	Saturday evening on or before full moon.
Holly Grove,	252	Fourth Saturday.
Lee,	253	First Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
*Mount Bethel,.....	254	First Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
Oaks,	255	Saturday before third Sunday, at 5 P. M.
Beulah,	257	Second Saturday.
Harnett,.....	258	Saturday before 4th Sunday, June 24 and De- cember 27.
*Waynesville,.....	259	Friday evening on or before full moon.
Centre Hill,.....	260	Fourth Saturday.
Excelsior,	261	Every Tuesday evening.
*High Briton,.....	262	Thursday evening before full moon, Tuesday nights of Superior Courts, June 24 and De- cember 27.
Gaston,.....	263	Friday evening after full moon, Monday even- ing of Court, June 24 and December 27.
Farmington,.....	265	Second Friday evening, June 24, December 27.
Durbin,	266	Second Friday morning.
Dunn's Rock,.....	267	Friday on or before the full moon, at 7½ o'clock P. M.
East Bend,.....	269	Saturday on or before full moon.
Tabasco,	271	Second Saturday evening, June 24 and Decem- ber 27.
Mebaneville,	272	First Saturday evening.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Watauga,	273	Friday evening before full moon, Monday evenings of Court, June 24 and December 27.
St. Patrick's,	274	Third Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
Beaver Dam,	276	Saturday on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27, at 2 P. M.
Green Level,	277	Saturday morning before second Sunday, June 24 and December 27.
Colesville,	278	Second Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Sapona,	280	Fourth Saturday, at 3 o'clock P. M., June 24 and December 27, at 10 A. M.
Richard Watt York,	281	Wednesday evening before second Sunday.
Forestville,	282	Thursday before second Sunday, June 24.
Eureka,	283	First Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M., June 24 and December 27.
Greenville,	284	First Thursday and first and third Monday evenings.
Castalia,	286	Third Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Salem,	289	First Thursday evening, June 24 and Dec. 27.
French Broad,	292	Friday, at 2 o'clock, on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Vance,	293	Thursday on or before full moon.
Atlantic,	294	Second Saturday, Tuesday evening of Court.
Stonewall,	296	Saturday before third Sunday.
Edgecombe,	298	Fourth Thursday.
Hunting Creek,	299	Friday on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Lillington,	302	Saturday evening before first Sunday.
Evergreen,	303	Third Saturday.
Pleasant Hill,	304	First Saturday, at 10 A. M.
Laurinburgh,	305	Thursday evening on or before full moon, December 27.
Galatia,	306	Saturday evening on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Patterson,	307	Saturday evening on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Randolph,	309	Saturday on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Hatcher,	310	Third Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
*Notla,	312	Second Saturday, at 10 A. M.
King Solomon,	313	First Saturday, December 27.
New Lebanon,	314	First Friday, at 10 A. M.
Kinston,	316	First and third Mondays.
Eureka,	317	Every Monday evening, June 24 and Dec. 27.
*Monatau,	318	Third Saturday afternoon.
Wilmington,	319	Third Tuesday evening.
Selma,	320	Saturday night before third Sunday.
White Hill,	321	Third Saturday evening, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Granite,	322	First Tuesday evening.
*Danbury,	323	Third Saturday.
Wentworth,	324	Saturday before third Sunday, at 3½ P. M.
Falling Creek,	325	Saturday before 3rd Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Sandy Creek,	326	Second Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
Winton,	327	Saturday before second Sunday.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Mattamuskeet,	328	Fourth Saturday, at 1 P. M.
Fayetteville,	329	Second and fourth Friday evenings.
Black Creek,	330	Third Saturday.
Bayboro,	331	Fourth Saturday.
Goldsboro,	332	First and third Thursday evenings.
Lock's Creek,	333	Fourth Saturday, June 24 and December 27.
Roman Eagle,	334	Third Friday evening, June 24 and Dec. 27.
Ash Pole,	335	Second Saturday.
Ionic,	337	Second Monday evening.
Palmyra,	338	First Wednesday, at 3 o'clock P. M.
Fairview,	339	Thursday evening before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Harmony,	340	First Thursday.
Rock Spring,	341	Saturday on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Cedar Fork,	342	Third Saturday.
Hickory,	343	Friday evening after full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Nuna F. Reid,	344	Saturday evening on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Snow Creek,	345	Friday evening on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.
Trap Hill,	346	Saturday evening on or before full moon.
Mount Mourne,	347	Saturday before second Sunday, at 2 P. M.
Stanly,	348	Every Thursday evening, Tuesday of Court, June 24 and December 27.
Apex,	349	First Saturday, at 3 P. M.
Mount Moriah,	350	Second Wednesday.
*Enfield,	351	First Thursday.
Durham,	352	2d and 4th Tuesday evenings, June 24, Dec. 27.
Moravian,	353	Friday on or before full moon, at 3 P. M.
Euno,	354	Saturday before third Sunday.
Dellaplane,	355	Saturday on or before full moon, at 2 P. M., June 24 and December 27.
Double Shoal,	356	Saturday evening on or before full moon.
Bakersville,	357	Tuesday before full moon, Tuesday of Court, June 24 and December 27.
East La Porte,	358	Saturday on or before full moon, at 1 P. M.
Mt. Vernon,	359	Second Thursday, at 2 P. M.
Mayon,	360	Third Saturday.
Acacia,	361	Wednesday evening before full moon.
Iredell,	362	First and third Saturdays.
Snow,	363	Friday evening after full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Cumberland,	364	Fourth Saturday, at 11 o'clock A. M.
Marlboro,	365	Saturday before first Sunday, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Craighead,	366	Third Saturday.
Jachin,	367	First Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
Mount Pisgah,	368	Saturday before 4th Sunday, at 3 o'clock P. M.
Air Line,	369	Friday evening on or before full moon, June 24 and December 27.

ABSTRACT of Returns from Subordinate Lodges for Masonic year ending October 31, 1879.

NAME OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Rejected.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Reinstated.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
St. John's,.....	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	.....	1	1	2	2	102	13	115	\$ 51 00
Royal White Hart,.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	41	6	47	15 50
St. John's,.....	3	2	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	8	1	.....	2	41	24	85	30 50
Charity,.....	5	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	3	57	1	58	28 50
Unanimity,.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	31	2	33	.....
Phoenix,.....	8	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	50	39	89	25 00
Johnston Caswell,.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
American George,.....	17	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	43	8	51	21 50
Phalanx,.....	31	3	2	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	98	66	164	49 00
Stokes,.....	32	.....	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
William R. Davie,.....	37	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	1	1	41	16	57	.....
Davie,.....	39	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	3	30	13 50
Hiran,.....	40	1	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	76	10	86	40 00
Hall,.....	53	3	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	43	.....	43	21 50
King Solomon,.....	56	3	2	3	1	2	.....	.....	1	3	.....	3	59	6	65	29 50
Concord,.....	58	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	55	12	67	27 50
Perseverance,.....	59	.....	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kilwinning,.....	64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	14	1	44	5	49	23 00
Scotland Neck,.....	68	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	41	1	42	20 50
Eagle,.....	71	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	.....	35	17 50
Widow's Son,.....	75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	55	2	57	27 50
Greensboro,.....	76	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	42	.....	.....	.....	33	42	75	16 50
Zion,.....	81	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	31	.....	31	15 50

[illegible]

ABSTRACT.—(Continued.)

NAME OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Rejected.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Reinstated.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
Lincoln,	137	1	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	1	25	30	55	\$ 12 50
King Solomon,	138	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	.....	.....	16	16	36	8 00
Mount Energy,	140	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	2	1	33	7	40	16 50
Carolina,	141	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	20	51	13 00
Mount Vernon,	143	No	Ret	urns	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Junaluska,	145	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	8	47	19 50
Cherokee,	146	.....	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Palmyra,	147	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	2	.....	2	24	21	45	12 00
Adoniram,	149	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	9	1	.....	2	25	8	33	12 50
Scotch Ireland,	154	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	12	3	15	6 00
White Stone,	155	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	43	10	53	21 50
Rolesville,	156	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	1	24	11 50
Mount Pleasant,	157	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	53	2	55	26 50
Knap of Reeds,	158	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	8	2	.....	.....	18	27	45	11 00
Rock Rest,	161	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	1	18	27	45	9 00
Yackin,	162	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	27	14 00
Archer,	165	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	27	.....	27	12 50
Saint Paul's,	166	.....	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	106	49 00
Winston,	167	4	4	3	6	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Hill,	168	.....	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	10	44	12 00
Blackmer,	170	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	12	6	18	6 00
Dell,	171	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	.....	.....	.....	64	31	95	32 00
Buffalo,	172	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

[illegible]

ABSTRACT.—(Continued.)

NAME OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Rejected.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Reinstated.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
Jonesville,.....	227	1	2	1	2	.....	1	.....	12	1	3	.....	55	15	70	\$ 27 50
McCormick,	228	.....	No	Ret	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henderson,	229	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	2	30	14 00
Corinthian,	230	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	4	36	16 00
William T. Bain,	231	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	20	3	23	10 00
Lenoir,	233	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	31	13	44	15 50
Anchor,	234	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	.....	19	4	23	8 50
Cokesbury,	235	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	16	10	26	8 00
Atlantic,	238	3	5	5	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	2	48	2	50	24 00
Wiceacon,	240	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	17	2	19	8 00
Loch Lommond,	242	6	5	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	.....	34	16 00
Ronntree,	243	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	2	42	19 50
Monroe,	244	5	4	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	4	2	37	12	49	18 50
New Berne,	245	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	19	13	32	9 50
Pythagoras,	249	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	17	13	30	8 50
Shiloh,	250	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	12	.....
Rockford,	251	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	.....	32	15 00
Holly Grove,	252	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	2	.....	17	8	25	8 50
Lee,	253	2	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	1	68	.....	68	34 00
Mount Bethel,	254	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oaks,	255	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	36	.....	36	10 00
Benlah,	257	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	25	.....	25	12 50
Harnett,	258	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	.....	21	9 50

[illegible]

ABSTRACT.—(Continued.)

NAME OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Rejected.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Reinstated.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
Galatia,	306	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	.....	28	14 00
Patterson,	307	.....	1	1	3	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	25	.....	25	12 50
Randolph,	309	.....	2	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	5	67	.....
Hatcher,	310	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	1	27	13 00
Noda,	312	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
King Solomon,	313	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	.....	36	28 00
New Lebanon,	314	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	1	29	7	36	14 50
Kinston,	316	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	22	.....	22	10 00
Eureka,	317	4	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	4	1	53	32	85	26 50
Monatan,	318	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilmington,	319	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	42	2	44	21 00
Selma,	320	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	17	8 50
White Hill,	321	1	1	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	10	35	4 25
Granite,	322	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	19	.....	19	9 50
Danbury,	323	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	18	.....	20	9 00
Wentworth,	324	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	34	5	39	17 00
Falling Creek,	325	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	1	27	13 00
Sandy Creek,	326	No	Ret	urns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Winton,	327	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	21	2	23	10 50
Mattamuskeet,	328	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	32	2	34	16 00
Fayetteville,	329	3	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	20	10 00
Black Creek,	330	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	2	22	.....

[illegible]

RECAPITULATION.

AGGREGATE OF LODGES.

Number of Lodges represented at Annual Communication, 1879.....	111	
“ “ making returns in the year 1879,.....		205
“ “ from which no returns were received,.....		26
“ “ at work,.....		231
“ Dechartered Lodges gone out of existence,.....		138
Number of Lodges formerly and at present existing.....		369

STATISTICS OBTAINED FROM RETURNS IN 1879, OF CHARTERED LODGES AND LODGES U. D.

Initiated,	216
Passed,	183
Raised,	163
Admitted in chartered Lodges,	101
Rejected,	50
Suspended,	19
Expelled,	17
Excluded for non-payment of dues,	411
Reinstated,	60
Withdrawn,	169
Died,	108

AGGREGATE OF MASONS.

Number of members returned,.....	6,830
“ “ resident Masons not members returned,	1,712
Whole number returned,.....	8,542
Add members (832) and Resident Masons (158) as obtained from the last returns of Lodges failing to make returns in 1879,.....	990
Estimated number formerly members of Lodges now extinct, not re- turned by any Lodge,.....	1,950
Total membership and resident Masons not members,.....	11,482

FRATERNAL DEAD.

St. John's, No. 1, J. N. Hinton, W. J. King.
Royal White Hart, No. 2, James W. Faucett, George W. Owens.
Charity, No. 5, Wm. P. Gurley, Jr., Wm. B. Mardre, Moore Rawls.
Unanimity, No. 7, J. H. Manning, S. T. Bond, R. R. Felton.
Phoenix, No. 8, W. T. Rhodes.
William R. Davie, No. 37, J. P. Mabry.
Hiram, No. 40, Henry J. Brown, W. R. Pepper.
King Solomon, No. 56, L. T. Bridgers, S. M. Lawrence, Richard Sykes.
Kilwinning, No. 64, G. W. Willoughby.
Eagle, No. 71, Jonathan Nichols, John Fowler.
Fellowship, No. 84, John Pool.
Morning Star, No. 85, Enos Rose.
Skewarkey, No. 90, J. G. Watts.
Western Star, No. 91, Wm. A. McClure.
St. John's No. 96, James H. Dibble, Nick Hunter.
Hiram, No. 98, Lewis Johnson, Murdock White.
Warren, No. 101, William Farrior.
Clinton, No. 107, John W. Gunn, N. M. Roan.
Belmont, No. 108, James R. Hurst, W. J. Brown.
Franklin, No. 109, Joseph B. Whitehurst.
Wayne, No. 112, Nathan Adams, Jacob B. Baker, Wm. Etheridge.
St. Albans, No. 114, Wm. M. Jenkins, Alexander H. Moore, Wm. A. Dick.
Mt. Hermon, No. 118, A. E. Baird.
Franklinton, No. 123, A. S. Gill.
Clinton, No. 124, J. S. Pearce.
Mill Creek, No. 125, Needham Grantham.
Hanks, No. 128, J. T. Fox.
Conoho, No. 131, W. W. Anthony, S. J. Williams.
Radiance, No. 132, A. D. Swinson.
Mocksville, No. 134, J. L. Adams, S. J. Hanes.
Lincoln, No. 137, M. J. Eudy.
Mount Energy, No. 140, B. L. Moss.
Palmyra, No. 147, H. J. Rials, T. B. Stricklin.
Adoniram, No. 149, T. S. Hart, Job Kittrell.
White Stone, No. 155, J. S. Williams.
Mount Pleasant, No. 157, Daniel Holloway.
Yadkin, No. 162, Wm. B. Joyner.

Archer, No. 165, H. M. Whitley, W. T. Robertson.
George Washington, No. 174, E. P. Fearington.
Polloksville, No. 175, George W. Simmons.
Mecklenburg, No. 176, S. J. Johnston.
Siloam, No. 178, C. H. Tenteberg.
Sandy Creek, No. 185, K. Gupton.
Balfour, No. 188, Samuel Walker, George W. Reid, W. L. Thornburg.
Fair Bluff, No. 190, Augustus Smith.
Cleaveland, No. 202, Thomas Williams.
Lebanon, No. 207, Glasgow Pridgen.
New Salem, No. 209, J. N. Barker.
New Light, No. 215, E. Haswell.
William G. Hill, No. 218, John G. Williams.
Stokesburg, No. 220, Joel Fulton, N. Massey, W. P. Covington, R. E. Withers.
Wilson, No. 226, R. L. Weaver.
Lenoir, No. 233, J. T. Uzzell.
Atlantic, No. 238, Jasper Jared, E. F. Simmons.
Rountree, No. 243, J. B. Taylor, J. B. Stanly.
New Berne, No. 245, Cyrus C. Holmes.
Lee, No. 253, William Daniel.
Beulah, No. 257, J. T. Pike.
Centre Hill, No. 260, James D. Webb.
Farmington, No. 265, D. W. Kinyoun, Philip Eaton.
Mebaneville, No. 272, Thomas J. Fowler, Moses Shaw.
Salem, No. 289, Peter H. Wagner.
Vance, No. 293, I. L. Williams.
Laurinburgh, No. 305, Joel Bullard.
New Lebanon, No. 314, Shadrach Brite.
Kinston, No. 316, one—name not reported.
Eureka, No. 317, A. S. Morgan.
Danbury, No. 323, D. A. Biby.
Mattamuskeet, No. 328, John J. Fulford.
Bayboro, No. 331, F. E. Alfred.
Goldsboro, No. 332, Herman Weil.
Harmony, No. 340, D. A. Williams.
Cedar Fork, No. 342, Michael Green.
Durham, No. 352, N. B. Kersey.
Moravian, No. 353, James Calloway.
Jachin, No. 367, B. L. Craven, S. W.

GRAND LODGES

*In correspondence with the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, and
names and address of Grand Secretaries.*

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama,.....	Daniel Sayre,.....	Montgomery.
Arkansas,.....	L. E. Barber,.....	Little Rock.
British Columbia,.....	Edgar Crow Baker,.....	Victoria.
California,.....	Alexander G. Abell,.....	San Francisco.
Canada,.....	J. J. Mason,.....	Hamilton.
Colorado,.....	Ed. C. Parmelee,.....	Georgetown.
Connecticut,.....	Jos. K. Wheeler,.....	Hartford.
Dakotah Territory,.....	Charles T. McCoy,.....	Bon Homme.
Delaware,.....	William S. Hayes,.....	Wilmington.
District of Columbia,.....	W. R. Singleton,.....	Washington.
England,.....	Shadwell Clerke,.....	London.
Florida,.....	D. C. Dawkins,.....	Jacksonville.
Georgia,.....	J. E. Blackshear, M. D.,	Macon.
Idaho Territory,.....	L. F. Cartee,.....	Boise City.
Illinois,.....	John F. Burrill,.....	Springfield.
Indiana,.....	Wm. H. Smythe,.....	Indianapolis.
Iowa,.....	Theodore S. Parvin,.....	Iowa City.
Kansas,.....	John H. Brown,.....	Wyandotte.
Kentucky,.....	Hiram Bassett,.....	Louisville.
Louisiana,.....	J. C. Batchelor, M. D.,	New Orleans.
Maine,.....	Ira Berry,.....	Portland.
Manitoba,.....	John H. Bell,.....	Winnipeg.
Maryland,.....	Jacob H. Mediar,.....	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,.....	Tracy P. Cheever,.....	Boston.
Michigan,.....	William P. Innes,.....	Grand Rapids.
Minnesota,.....	A. T. C. Pierson,.....	St. Paul.
Mississippi,.....	J. L. Power,.....	Jackson.
Missouri,.....	John D. Vincil, M. D.,	St. Louis.
Montana,.....	Cornelius Hedges,.....	Helena.
Nebraska,.....	William R. Bowen,.....	Omaha.
Nevada,.....	John D. Hammond,.....	Carson.
New Brunswick,.....	William F. Bunting,.....	St. Johns.
New Hampshire,.....	George P. Cleaves,.....	Concord.
New Jersey,.....	Joseph H. Hough,.....	Trenton.
New York,.....	James M. Austin, M. D.,	New York City.
Nova Scotia,.....	Benjamin Curren, D. C. L.	Halifax.
Ohio,.....	John D. Caldwell,.....	Cincinnati.
Oregon,.....	I. W. Pratt,.....	Portland.
Pennsylvania,.....	John Thomson,.....	Masonic Temple, Philada.
Prince Edward Island,...	Geo. W. Wakefield,.....	Charlottetown.
Quebec,.....	John H. Isaacson,.....	Montreal.

Grand Lodges in Correspondence, &c.—(CONTINUED.)

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Rhode Island,.....	Edwin Baker,.....	Providence.
South Carolina,.....	Charles Inglesby,.....	Charleston.
Tennessee,	John Frizzell,.....	Nashville.
Texas,	George H. Bringham,....	Houston.
Utah Territory,.....	Christopher Diehl,.....	Salt Lake City.
Vermont,	Henry Clark,.....	Rutland.
Virginia,.....	William B. Isaacs,.....	Richmond.
Washington Territory,....	Thomas M. Reed,.....	Olympia.
West Virginia,.....	O. S. Long,.....	Wheeling.
Wisconsin,.....	John W. Woodhull,.....	Milwaukee.
Wyoming Territory,.....	William G. Tonn,.....	Evanston.

REPRESENTATIVES

Of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina near other Grand Lodges.

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama,	George D. Norris, M. D.,	New Market.
Arkansas,.....	M. M. McGuire,.....	
Canada,.....	Lawrence H. Heuderson,	Belleville, Ont.
Florida,.....	Zelotes H. Mason,.....	Apopka.
Illinois,	Walter A. Stevens,.....	Chicago.
Iowa,	Wm. B. Langridge,.....	Muscatine.
Kentucky,	John D. Wickliffe,.....	Bardstown.
Louisiana,.....	Samuel M. Todd,.....	New Orleans.
Maine,.....	Albert Moore,.....	North Anson.
Minnesota,.....	Wm. S. Combs,.....	St. Paul.
Mississippi,.....	A. H. Barkley,.....	Crawfordsville.
Missouri,.....	B. O. Austin,.....	New Bloomfield.
Nebraska,.....	Robert W. Furnas,.....	Brownsville.
New Jersey,.....	Wm. H. DeWolfe,.....	Hackensack.
New York,.....	Ellwood E. Thorne,.....	New York.
Nova Scotia,.....	Henry Despard,.....	
Tennessee,	Jonathan S. Dawson,.....	Paris.
Vermont,	Nathan P. Bowman,.....	St. Johnsbury.
Wisconsin,.....	Thomas McWilliams,.....	Eagle.

REPRESENTATIVES

Of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Arkansas,.....	Fabius H. Busbee,.....	Raleigh.
Brazil,	Robert W. Best,.....	Raleigh.
Canada,	George W. Blount,.....	Wilson.
Chili,	John Nichols,.....	Raleigh.
Connecticut,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Georgia,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Illinois,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Indiana,	Horace H. Munson,.....	Wilmington.
Iowa,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Kentucky,.....	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Louisiana,.....	Robert B. Vance,.....	Asheville.
Missouri,.....	Robert W. Best,.....	Raleigh.
New Jersey,.....	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
New York,.....	Robert W. Lassiter,.....	Oxford.
Nova Scotia,.....	Thos. S. Kenan,.....	Wilson.
Tennessee,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Texas,	Donald W. Bain,.....	Raleigh.
Wisconsin,.....	John Nichols,.....	Raleigh.

INDEX.

This Index refers to the Proceedings proper, contained in pages 3 to 48 inclusive. All other matter can be readily referred to.

A

	PAGES.
Accounts and Claims—Committee on—Appointed,.....	30
“ “ Report of Committee on—Adopted,.....	37
Alabama—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
Annual Communication—proposition to change time of—Presented,.....	39
“ “ “ “ Laid on table,....	43
Arkansas—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36

B

Brazil—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
---	----

C

Caldwell Lodge, No. 180—Action in favor of,.....	41
Canada—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
Charters and Dispensations—Committee on—Appointed,.....	29
“ “ Report of Committee on—Adopted,.....	38
Chili—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
CODE—AMENDMENTS TO—	
Article XIII, Sec. 5 (page 31)—Presented,.....	33
“ “ “ Rejected,	46
“ XVIII, Sec. 1 (page 41)—Presented,.....	33
“ “ “ Rejected,.....	44
“ II of Constitution—Presented,.....	39
“ “ “ Laid on table,.....	47
“ IV, Sec. 1, By-Laws—Presented,.....	39
“ “ “ “ Laid on table,	43
“ VII, “ “ “ “ “	45
Commissioner of Agriculture—Invitation from,.....	26
Connecticut—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
Consolidation of Lodges—Report of Committee on,.....	41
Cooking School—Invitation to visit,.....	33

Credentials—Report of Committee on—Presented,.....	3—7
“ Committee on for 1880—Appointed,.....	47

D

DECISIONS OF GRAND MASTER—

1st. A profane rejected and afterwards receives degrees abroad, not entitled to recognition,.....	9
2d. An E. A. of an extinct Lodge becomes the material of the nearest Lodge,.....	9
3rd. Jurisdiction of Lodges determined by State lines,.....	9
4th. Verbal technicalities, &c., in trials, not admissible,.....	9
5th. An accuser may employ counsel to prosecute,.....	9
6th. Dimit should not be granted after notice of charges,.....	10
7th. Committee on Orphan Asylum—when to report to Lodge,.....	10
8th. A suspended Mason can be tried, &c.,.....	10
9th. A member excluded for non-payment of dues can be restored upon petition and payment of arrears,.....	10
10th. Petition of minister cannot be entertained without fee,.....	10
Decisions approved—Report of Committee on,.....	46
Deputy Grand Master—Grand Secretary's report,.....	21
“ “ “ Amendment concerning—Presented,.....	39
“ “ “ “ Laid on table,.....	47
Dispensations—Grand Master's address,.....	17
“ Grand Secretary's report,.....	19

E

Economy—Orphan Asylum—Grand Master's address,.....	17
Emblem in Orphan Asylum—Resolution concerning,.....	47
Endowment fund, Orphan Asylum—Grand Treasurer's report,.....	25
Exclusion for non-payment of Dues—Grand Secretary's report,.....	20
Extinct Lodges—Grand Secretary's report,.....	20

F

Foreign Correspondence—Report of Committee on,.....	40
“ “ Committee for 1880—Appointed,.....	47
Fraternal Courtesies—Grand Master's address,.....	17

G

Georgia—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
Grand Lecturers and work—Grand Master's address,.....	12

Grand Lecturers and work—Committee on—Appointed,	30
“ “ “ Report of Committee on,	33—34
“ “ “ “ “ Laid on the table, ..	47
Grand Lodge—opening of,	3
“ “ closing of,	48
Grand Master—Address of—Referred,	7—18
“ “ “ Report on,	29
“ “ “ Special reports on,	33, 34,
“ “ “ Jewel of—Grand Treasurer's report,	25
Grand Master's prerogatives—Grand Master's address,	10
Grand Officers—Election of,	38
“ “ Committee appointed to communicate election of,	39
“ “ Report of Committee “ “	43
“ “ Jewels of—Grand Treasurer's report,	25
“ “ Appointed by Grand Master,	43—44
“ “ Installation of,	43—44
Grand Secretary—Report of—Referred,	19—22
“ “ Committee on books, &c., of—Appointed,	30
“ “ Report of Committee—Adopted,	32
Grand Treasurer—Report of—Referred,	23—26
“ “ Report of Committee to examine books,	37
“ “ Appointed to collect interest on U. S. bonds,	39

H

Hall of Grand Lodge—Grand Secretary's report,	22
“ “ Grand Treasurer's report,	24

I

Illinois—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,	36
Indebtedness of Lodges to Grand Lodge—Committee to report—Appointed,	32
Indebtedness of Lodges to Grand Lodge—Report of Committee on,	45
Indiana—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,	36
Insurance of Orphan Asylum—Grand Treasurer's report,	25
Insurance feature of Grand Lodge—Resolution concerning—Referred,	30
“ “ “ Report of Committee on,	41
Iowa—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,	36

J

Jewels of Grand Officers—Grand Treasurer's report,	25
Jurisprudence—Report of Committee on—Adopted,	46
“ Committee for 1880 appointed,	47

K

Kentucky—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36
---	----

L

Lodges—Establishment of—Grand Secretary's report.....	19
“ Removal of— “ “ “	19
“ Extinct— “ “ “	20
“ Returns of— “ “ “	21
“ Chartered,	38

M

Masonic Temple Association—Grand Master's address,.....	14
“ “ “ Committee on—Appointed,.....	19
“ “ “ Report of Committee on,.....	43
Mayon Lodge, No. 360—Removal of—Grand Secretary's report,.....	19
Mill Creek Lodge, No. 125— “ “ “ “	19
Missouri—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,.....	36

N

New Jersey—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,	36
Non-Affiliation—Grand Master's address,	12—14
Non-Affiliated Masons—Amendment to Code—Presented,....	33
“ “ “ “ Rejected,.....	44
North Carolina Baptist State Convention—Grand Master's address,.....	15

O

Official Correspondence—Grand Master's address,.....	8—9
Orphan Asylum - Grand Master's Address,.....	14
“ “ Endowment of—Grand Treasurer's report,.....	25
“ “ Report of Superintendent— Referred,.....	27—29
“ “ Committee on—Appointed,.....	30
“ “ “ Report of—Adopted,.....	41—42
“ “ Superintendent elected,.....	38
Orphans' Friend—Report of Committee on,.....	41—42
Orphans—Death of—Announced,.....	27

P

Printing—Committee on—Appointed,	47
Propositions and Grievances—Committee on—Appointed,	30
“ “ “ “ Report of,	40
“ “ “ “ for 1880—Appointed,	48

R

Railroads, &c.—Resolution of thanks to,	48
Returns of Lodges—Grand Secretary's Report,	21—22
“ “ Committees on—Appointed,	29
“ “ Report of Committee No. 1,	35
“ “ “ “ No. 2,	36—37
“ “ “ “ No. 3,	32

S

Standing Committees—Grand Master's address,	11
“ “ Special Committee on—Appointed,	30
“ “ “ “ “ Report of,	34
State Appropriation—Grand Master's address,	16—17
“ “ Superintendent's report,	28
St. John's Day (June 24)—Grand Master's address,	15
Suspensions and Expulsions—Grand Secretary's report,	22
“ “ “ Committees on—Appointed,	26, 29
“ “ “ Report of Committee No. 1,	31
“ “ “ “ “ No. 2,	31, 35
“ “ “ “ “ No. 3,	45
“ “ “ Committees for 1880—Appointed,	47—48

T

Tennessee—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,	36
Texas—“ “ “ “ “	36
Thanks—To L. L. Polk, Commissioner,	26
“ To Mrs. H. S. Campbell,	33
“ To people—Report on Orphan Asylum,	42
“ To Railroad Companies, &c.,	48

U

Unfinished Business—Committee on—Appointed,	30
“ “ “ “ Report of,	37

W

Wisconsin—Grand Lodge of—Representative received,	36
---	----

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The undersigned Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to submit the following report :

We feel it to be our duty simply to review the proceedings of those Grand Jurisdictions between which and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina friendly and harmonious relations exist, to note what of interest is passing in the Masonic world, and to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to those matters, if any, which need its notice or demand its action. It is no part of our province to review the condition of Masonry in our own jurisdiction, to analyze the causes of its prosperity or decline, and suggest the means of advancing the one or remedies to cure the other ; to exhort our brethren to an earnest and enthusiastic performance of their Masonic obligations or the support of enterprises which are under their patronage and need their loving care. These matters pertain to the prerogatives of the Grand Master and the other Grand Officers of this body ; and if, in any possible contingency, a concurrent jurisdiction should belong to us, they have been so eloquently set forth in the address of the Grand Master, and so lucidly detailed in the reports of the other Grand Officers and Committees, that it would be a work of supererogation in us to allude to them.

The work assigned to your committee is one of great magnitude, involving the examination of more than forty reports of the annual proceedings of Grand Jurisdictions, and the reading, more or less carefully, of more than ten thousand pages of closely printed matter. When we note the thorough manner in which this work is performed by similar committees in other Grand Lodges, and the literary ability and Masonic knowledge which their reports disclose, your committee do not hesitate to express their embarrassment in presenting a report comparatively crude and imperfect, and hastily prepared by one who has not possessed the leisure required for the proper performance of the labor.

Your committee has received from the Grand Secretary and noticed the proceedings of the following Grand Jurisdictions, to-wit :

Alabama,	1878
Arkansas,	1878
British Columbia,	1878-'79

California,.....	1878
Connecticut,.....	1879
Cuba,.....	1878-79
Dakota,.....	1879
Delaware,.....	1878
District of Columbia,.....	1878
Georgia,.....	1878
Indiana,.....	1879
Illinois,.....	1878
Iowa,.....	1879
Kentucky,.....	1878
Louisiana,.....	1879
Mississippi,.....	1879
Massachusetts, (special and quarterly).....	1879
Maine,.....	1879
Manitoba,.....	1878
Michigan,.....	1879
Missouri,.....	1878
New Brunswick,.....	1878-79
New Hampshire,.....	1879
New Jersey,.....	1879
New York,.....	1879
Nebraska,.....	1879
Nevada,.....	1879
Nova Scotia,.....	1878
Ohio,.....	1878
Oregon,.....	1879
Pennsylvania,.....	1878
Prince Edward's Island,.....	1879
Quebec,.....	1878
South Carolina,.....	1878
Tennessee,.....	1878
Texas,.....	1878
Virginia,.....	1878
West Virginia,.....	1878
Washington Territory,.....	1879
Wisconsin,.....	1879
Wyoming Territory,.....	1878

While in some of the Grand Lodges the membership has increased over that of the preceding year, the total membership has fallen off about 17,000. The suspensions for non-payment of dues have increased greatly, and the number of initiates decreased. Bro. Drummond, Chairman of the Committee on

Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maine, a devoted Mason and careful statistician, reckons the suspensions for non-payment of dues, during the past ten years, to be over one hundred and fifty thousand, and the number of initiates for 1879, in fifty-three Grand Lodges, to be 24,000 against 50,000 for the year 1869.

This is a deplorable falling off in our numbers, but is accounted for, in part at least, by the extreme financial depression from which all parts of the world have suffered for nearly a decade past.

It is to be regretted that Masonry, like everything else, is influenced by the ebb and flow of commercial prosperity, and, like a buoy, rises and falls with every advancing and receding wave of gold. With its solid and ancient foundations, and the strong superstructure which centuries have added, it should be independent of all such influences. With the principles it professes and the objects it has in view, it would seem that as the world's troubles increase, Masonry should make more manifest its stability and strength; that the thicker the general gloom, the brighter should burn the light upon our altars, and the deeper the sorrow of individuals or nations, the more open should be the hand and more abundant in charity the heart of every Master Mason.

Let us hope, then, that as new life has been infused into every branch of trade, and the drooping energies of every nation have been aroused, our Order may feel the quickening influence of the universal revival and regain her accustomed strength and vigor.

By nearly all of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence in sister jurisdictions, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Communication of 1878, were favorably noticed, our great charity, the Orphan Asylum, cordially commended, and the address of Grand Master Munson warmly praised, frequently quoted, and his decisions generally approved.

As a general rule, harmony prevails in our sister Grand Lodges. In a few there are slight disturbing causes, but they are principally of local interest and such as time and wise management will remove.

The action of the Grand Orient of France, which was very strongly denounced at our last Communication, has been so universally condemned and execrated that no doubt now exists that the Masonic world still clings to the faith of "the fathers," and that the belief in God is a well-recognized and necessary "landmark" of our most ancient and honorable society.

A letter has been received by your committee from *G. J. Barnet*, Grand Secretary of the "Grand Lodge of Colon," correcting certain alleged errors in a statement made by the Grand Master of the "Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba" to the effect that there exists a *schism* in the Grand Lodge of Colon—two bodies, one at Santiago de Cuba, and the other at Havana, each claiming to be the Grand Lodge of Colon. Bro. Barnet says that this statement, which has had the effect to prevent or delay the recognition of Colon by some Grand Lodges, was a willful misrepresentation by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Cuba. He says there is no *schism*; but that the few "rebellious"

brethren who, "to make noise and create atmosphere" (as he puts it,) had divided off and established Lodges, now desire to return to the field which they abandoned "in a moment of offuscation." The letter also urges us to recommend to this Grand Lodge the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Colon.

The controversy between the two rival claimants for the exclusive jurisdiction on the Island of Cuba, has given rise to many circular letters from each, much discussion in other Grand Lodges and some bitterness. Some of our sister jurisdictions have recognized the Grand Lodge of Cuba; some have given their recognition and then rescinded it. In some there is an inclination to recognize Colon, but the majority have postponed action, from time to time, in the hope that the unhappy differences would be reconciled and the two bodies united.

The right is certainly with one of the two, and we ought not to withhold our fraternal recognition of the claimant entitled thereto. But as the questions at issue between them involve so many facts, alleged on the one side and denied on the other, and so much of Masonic law, your committee do not feel warranted in recommending any final action at present, but beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be, and they are hereby instructed to investigate the rival claims of the Grand Lodge of Cuba and the Grand Lodge of Colon to recognition by this Grand Lodge, and report their conclusions to our next Annual Communication.

The action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in organizing subordinate Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, deserves your attention and disapproval. No question is better settled in Masonry than that jurisdictional limits must be faithfully observed, and it is equally well settled that political and Masonic boundaries should be coterminous. When a Grand Lodge has once established itself in any territory it is entitled to the exclusive control of that territory, and no other Grand Lodge ought to encroach upon it to establish Lodges or to receive the allegiance of established Lodges. The organization, therefore, of two Lodges in the territorial limits of the Grand Lodge of Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, is an invasion of the rights of the former, for which we have seen no good excuse rendered; and the refusal of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to withdraw the charters of these Lodges in answer to the respectful request of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, is ill-advised and unfortunate, as tending to a breach of the harmony and peaceful relations which ought to exist among brethren. We, therefore, recommend the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge sends its fraternal greetings to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, recognizes its claim to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Province of Quebec, and commends its resistance to the encroachments of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge holds that those Lodges in the Province of Quebec not recognized by the Grand Lodge of Quebec, are illegal and their members clandestine.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge respectfully requests the Grand Lodge of Scotland to withdraw the charters granted by it to the two Lodges in Quebec, in order that the former peaceful and harmonious relations between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of Scotland may be fully restored.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Grand Lodge of New Mexico has asked for our fraternal recognition, and, as the hindering causes have been removed, it should no longer be withheld. We, therefore, recommend the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge extends fraternal recognition to the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and will gladly exchange therewith the usual Masonic civilities.

The foregoing embraces all the matters which your committee deems necessary to be called to the attention of your Grand Body at present. We will submit herewith a review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges above mentioned.

ALABAMA.

The Grand Lodge held its fifty-eighth Annual Communication at Montgomery, commencing December 2, 1878, Henry Clay Armstrong, Grand Master, presiding. All the Grand Officers were present, besides seven Past Grand Officers, and the representatives of 216 out of about 300 subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is short and business-like. It expresses gratitude for the comparative freedom which Alabama had from the ravages of the terrible plague which visited New Orleans, Memphis, Vicksburg and other places, and commends the noble self-sacrifice of the brethren of the jurisdiction of Alabama and other States.

In regard to the action of the Grand Orient of France, the Grand Master says :

"It is with feelings of profound regret that I have to inform you that the Grand Orient of France has removed from its constitution those paragraphs which affirm a belief in the existence of T. G. A. O. T. U. This action on the part of the Grand Orient of France, I firmly believe to be subversive of many principles which, from the earliest period of Masonry to the present time, have been the beauty and glory of the Order, and I must say that I am appalled at the evils which may result from it, unless it everywhere receives the unqualified disapprobation it so well deserves. I therefore trust this Grand

Lodge will, in a proper and emphatic manner, express its condemnation of the action taken by the Grand Orient of France in thus removing from its constitution those paragraphs which assert a belief in Deity, because such an alteration is opposed to the traditions, practice and feelings of true and genuine Masons from the earliest to the present times."

The following are some of the decisions which the Grand Master reports as having been made by him during the year :

"That a Lodge has no right to pass resolutions of respect to the memory of, or bury with Masonic honors, a brother who, at the time of his death, was suspended for the non-payment of dues.

"When complaint is made by a Master Mason in good standing (although not a member of the Lodge to which he complains) against a brother, it is the duty of the Lodge to which the brother complained of belongs, to investigate the facts; and if the brother complained of is guilty of unmasonic conduct, to prefer charges against him. Absence of the brother complained of from the State, is not a sufficient reason to refuse an investigation."

"General worthlessness and the reputation of a common liar is good cause for preferring charges, and, if sustained, the brother is unworthy Masonic protection, and should be expelled.

"A non-affiliated Mason is not entitled to, and should not receive, Masonic burial.

"The jurisdiction of a subordinate Lodge extends half way in every direction to the nearest Lodge; and a Lodge receiving a petition and conferring the degrees upon a party living in the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without the consent of such Lodge, is liable to the Lodge having jurisdiction for the fees.

"A Lodge cannot try its Master, but may become his accuser, and must furnish to the Grand Lodge, to which the Worshipful Master is alone amenable, evidence to sustain the charges."

Bro. Oliver S. Beers, in behalf of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a special report, which was concurred in, among other things, postponing until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge the question of the recognition of either of the Cuban organizations claiming to be the Supreme Grand Lodge. The report also "commends to the sympathy of the Grand Lodge the M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec, in her present struggle to vindicate her rights of territorial jurisdiction against the unwarrantable attacks of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland."

The special committee on the Grand Orient of France reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

"1st. That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama deeply deplores the action of the Grand Orient of France in the above particular, and fraternally urges

upon the said Grand Orient a review of its action and the re-instatement of a firm belief in God as a pre-requisite in every candidate for Masonic degrees.

"2d. That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama believes that Masonry does not and cannot exist without this belief, and that any Order so constituted, though similar in all particulars to Masonry, yet is not Masonry, and cannot be recognized as such.

"3d. That so long as the Grand Orient of France shall adhere to its present declaration, it is not a Masonic organization, and therefore—

"4th. That the Grand Lodge of Alabama hereby ceases all recognition of the said Grand Orient of France, and forbids any Masonic recognition by any of its members of any one claiming to be of the Grand Orient of France, or any of its dependencies, and that this is to continue in force until the Grand Lodge of Alabama shall have been notified of the retraction of the Grand Orient of France, and shall have repealed this action."

Henry Clay Armstrong was re-elected Grand Master, and Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary.

The business of the Grand Lodge was dispatched rapidly and harmoniously. The report of the Finance Committee shows receipts \$4,911.03, and disbursements \$4,405.08. The Grand Lodge has a Permanent Trust Fund, consisting of \$4,900 in United States bonds, as per report of the Trustees.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. Oliver S. Beers, and he is a model reporter. He easily and gracefully reviews the proceedings of forty Grand Jurisdictions, and has the rare faculty of extracting the kernel from each for the enjoyment of his readers.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Lodges represented, 216; members reported at this Grand Communication, 7,925; number of Lodges that paid dues, 254.

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Initiated, 348; passed, 315; raised, 308; affiliated, 267; rejected, 66; dimitted, 382; died, 147; expelled, 9; suspended for unmasonic conduct, 9; suspended for non-payment of dues, 598; re-instated, 211; number of Lodges at work, 302.

ARKANSAS.

The Grand Lodge met in its thirty-ninth Annual Communication, at Little Rock, on the 14th of October, 1878, Past Grand Master E. H. English, presiding, but on account of the exceedingly slim attendance, (only six subordinate Lodges being represented,) adjourned to meet on the second Tuesday in January, 1879.

On January 14th the Grand Lodge was called to labor, M. W. John F. Hill, Grand Master, presiding. All the Grand Officers were present, and 120 out of 327 Grand Lodges, were represented.

The Grand Master's address is short, and contains nothing of special interest. It refers feelingly to the death, during the year, of Most Excellent J. W. Jordan, Grand High Priest, and R. W., W. H. Sutton, P. G. Lecturer of the Grand Lodge, and also to the death of A. J. Wheeler, P. G. M. of Tennessee, who had formerly had some pleasant relations with the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.

The following decisions were reported :

"The Master and Wardens of subordinate Lodges shall in no case be installed by proxy.

"A brother petitioned Jasper Lodge, No. 21, with his dimit, for affiliation. At a stated meeting a committee was appointed to report at the next meeting. That night, it being the stated meeting to elect officers, the Lodge elected him Master. I decided the election null and void ; ordered the Master of said Lodge to summon all the members to attend on the 27th day of December, and elect a Master. I granted the Lodge a dispensation to elect and install a Master that is a member of the Lodge.

"A brother ordered to receive a reprimand by the Master for unmasonic conduct. He refused to receive the reprimand, paid his dues to the Secretary, and asked for a dimit. He is not entitled to a dimit until he receives the reprimand by the Master, as ordered."

The address concludes as follows :

"I am gratified to say that our relations with all the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States and Territories are pleasant, and we hail them as brethren, North, South, East and West, and greet them a Happy New Year, and may the God of Heaven bless their charities extended to the yellow fever sufferers of the United States."

Bro. Fay Hempstead, of Little Rock, delivered the Grand Orator's address, taking for his subject "The Strength of Voluntary Associations." He discussed in a clear, eloquent and classical manner, the following propositions :

First. That to make voluntary associations successful it is necessary that the individuals composing them should enter into the cause with their utmost zeal ; and

Second. That to keep them strong, it is necessary that the members thereof should be actuated by high and pure principles.

In exhorting the brethren to "guard well the outer door," Bro. Hempstead eloquently says :

"Masonry is a thing of the heart rather than of the head ; and I had rather the man who knocks there for admission, should be stamped with the patent

of that nobility which proceeds from high principle out of an honest and good heart, than for any other qualification with which he can become endowed. I take my idea in this respect from what has been said by a great poet to a certain high-born lady, who, in the boastful pride of her ancient blood and long line of descent, was answered :

‘However it be, it seems to me
 ’Tis only noble to be *good*,
 Kind hearts are more than coronets;
 And simple faith than Norman blood.’

“You will find that where a society is composed of picked men, and none but the very best are chosen, that that fact of itself will do a great deal towards strengthening and cementing the organization. It awakes in each member a spirit of just emulation with his fellows, to be up to the highest mark in worth and conduct. It creates what the French denominate *‘Esprit du corps’*—of more value than any other spirit that can be aroused in a body.

“When the great Frederick of Prussia organized his National Guard, he permitted only those to enlist therein who were six feet high by actual measurement. This selection from the most perfect types of physical manhood, created a splendid body of soldiery, whose imposing appearance commanded the attention of every one wherever they went; and I doubt not the mere fact of his being so conspicuously one of a chosen band, had the effect of making each man a better soldier.

“Certainly, brethren, we could not do better than to carry the great monarch’s precept as to physical qualifications into the moral sphere, and say that no man can enlist among us unless, in conduct and pure principles, he stands six feet high without heels!

“When the conduct of each member is squared by this rule, the society which they compose cannot fail to be durable. Experiments that have been made in governing men in the past go to show that those systems are longer lived where an elevated manhood is established and appealed to to *lead*, than where force is employed to *drive*, the subject. The forcible may, for a time, overawe and terrify the citizen, but in time it becomes the victim of its own blind fury; and turning upon itself dies from the venom of its own sting.”

In Bro. Fay Hempstead the writer recognizes an old college acquaintance and friend, of genial nature, high culture and handsome form and face. So strikingly handsome was he eleven years ago, and so great was his popularity with his fellow-students, that, out of more than 500 college men, he was selected as the most deserving of the “hat,” awarded by the “Ugly Club” to the handsomest and most popular man at the University of Virginia. His address as “Grand Orator” shows that he has not lost the grace and polish of his more youthful days, and that ten years practice of the law, with its hardening influences, has not availed to freeze “the genial current of his soul.”

Bro. Hempstead was elected Grand Junior Warden, and is on his journey to the East. He has many friends in North Carolina, who will be glad to hear of him. That is the writer's apology, if any is needed, for devoting some of his space to a personal friend.

The Committee on Education made an encouraging report on St. John's College.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage, in response to a question submitted to it, made a report, which was adopted, to the effect that when a brother has been tried and convicted on charges, a new trial cannot be granted on motion made at a subsequent meeting; that after the trial is concluded and the Lodge closed, it has no further jurisdiction over the case, unless the case be remanded by the Grand Lodge, on appeal.

Bro. George E. Dodge furnishes an interesting and ample report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, covering eighty-seven pages. No superfluous matter is included in the report. It is full, yet succinct; and gives an excellent view of what is doing in the sister jurisdictions. In his review of our Grand Lodge proceedings, he pays graceful compliments to the address of Grand Master Munson, 1877, which address, by the way, has received encomiums from nearly all the reports of Correspondence Committees for 1878 that we have read.

Brother George Thornburgh was elected Grand Master, and L. E. Barber re-elected Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Chartered Lodges, 327; members initiated, 491; members passed, 472; members raised, 429; members as per returns, 8,293.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Grand Lodge held its eighth Annual Communication in the city of Victoria, June 21st, 1879, M. W. Grand Master Eli Harrison present and presiding. Five out of six chartered Lodges were represented. The address of the Grand Master was short and practical, and concludes with the following allusion to the general condition of Masonry in the Province:

"Although the Craft in this Province is not increasing in numbers, yet, the material accepted is apparently good. Considering the depression which has prevailed here for the last eight years, it would be out of place to congratulate this Grand Lodge on the improved condition of the Craft financially, for at the formation of this Grand Lodge we were several hundred dollars in debt; at the present time we are out of debt and have over four thousand dollars out at interest. Several of the subordinate Lodges have fine properties of their

own. This speaks louder than words, and indicates what our prospects may be when the rich resources of the country shall be developed."

The following Masonic decisions were reported by the Grand Master and concurred in by the Grand Lodge:

"1. When a candidate was duly elected in open Lodge, but before receiving the degrees, a brother who was not present and did not know that the candidate's petition was before the Lodge, objected to the conferring of the degrees, *held*, that the degrees ought not to be conferred until the difficulties were settled.

"2. If a W. M. finds a communication addressed to the Lodge improper to be read before it, it is his duty to withhold the same.

"3. A brother need not state his objections to the admission of a candidate."

The brethren in British Columbia have erected and paid for a beautiful Masonic Temple in the heart of the city of Victoria, at a cost of \$12,000. The capital stock consists of 600 shares of \$20 each, and a dividend of 5 per cent. is paid annually.

M. W. Eli Harrison was re-elected Grand Master and V. W. Edgar Crow Baker was elected Grand Secretary. No report on Foreign Correspondence appears to have been offered, nor was a committee appointed on the same.

The Grand Lodge statistics are as follows:

Chartered Lodges, 6; members initiated, 16; members passed, 14; members raised, 12; total number of Masons on roll, 295; total receipts from all sources \$575.

CALIFORNIA.

The Grand Lodge held its 29th Annual Communication in Masonic Temple, San Francisco, on 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th days of October, 1878. M. W. John Mills Browne, Grand Master, presided, and 190 out of 201 subordinate Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master delivered a long and able address, giving a very interesting, instructive, and, in the main, encouraging account of the condition of Masonry in California, commenting sharply, but justly upon the erroneous ideas that some Masons entertain of the nature and purposes of the Order, and the painful dereliction in duty that, in various parts of the jurisdiction come under his observation. Of Masonry, he says:

"Certain Masons have erroneous ideas as to the true intent of practical Masonry, and these ideas, when entertained by the other world, become, in its estimation, facts. Now it is not a fact that it is a system of benefits and en-

dowments, that it is a membership to promote business interests, or that in any way its workings recognize its receipts as loans, from which a proportionate benefit, in manner of a return, may be derived. It is purely and simply a system of practical charity in its highest sense, disbursing its funds for the relief of the poor and suffering, without specific amount or defined allowance, but corresponding in sums to the actual want.

"It is not a fact that it is a club or place merely of social gathering, an assemblage of boon companions for the conviviality or selfish gratification. It is a companionship of brothers, united by mystic bonds, which, while affording gratification to the social feelings, finds new motives and added obligations to rectitude of life, and to the practice of the genuineness of benevolence: a society for instruction, for the promotion of public and private virtues, for the encouragement of social improvement in every form, for the enhancement and refinement of common life, and for the advocacy of reformatory schemes with intent to cope successfully with social mischief.

"It is not a fact that it is co-equal with, or takes the place of, religion. It is a perfect system of morality, of no nationality, and, as such, is the conservator of religion. It progresses with the highest civilization, and, by its propagation of human sympathy, unites men of all nations in one common bond of amity. Masonry has no creed but faith; it cherishes hope and fears not, and employs charity in place of persecution. Although discountenanced by suspicion, and excommunicated by jealousy, it continues to be recognized as a steadfast and powerful instrument for the promotion of peace and good will among men."

In California, as in other jurisdictions that we wot of, the attendance upon the funeral of a deceased brother is frequently smaller than proper respect for the dead, and the true principles of Masonry require. On this subject the Grand Master says:

"The meagre attendance at the funeral of a brother, which not unfrequently happens, is another deplorable fact. This remark is applicable mainly to Masons who reside in large communities. To pay the last sad tribute of respect to a deceased brother, to evince to his family and friends the estimation had of his character and the regret experienced at his loss, and to exhibit to the public that the brotherhood performs that which it professes, are duties not to be omitted without injury to the fraternity. It may necessitate some inconvenience; it requires a little time to accompany the departed brother to his resting-place, there to cast the evergreen and give the farewell; but the inconvenience will soon be forgotten, and the time will not be regretted, in the consciousness of having done unto him that which you would have done unto you when the ending comes. To honor the dead is commendable; to ignore the dead is lamentable. Masonry inculcates the first, and condemns the last."

He makes mention of three Lodges in which no minute-books had ever been kept; of another which remained closed for two months because of the absence

of the Master ; of another in which no record had been made of its proceedings since 1868 ; of another in which a degree could not be conferred without the assistance of a neighboring Lodge.

In California the jurisdiction is divided into thirty-two Inspector's Districts, and it is made the duty of each Inspector to report to the Grand Master the condition of the Lodges in his district, and to call his attention to any matters of interest in said district. A good idea, that.

The following paragraph from the address shows that, however great may be the derelictions of duty in other quarters of his jurisdiction, the Grand Master has been faithful in the performance of his functions :

"I have now officially visited every one of the thirty-two districts of our large jurisdiction, including that at the Hawaiian Islands. Some of the districts have been visited thrice, many twice, but all once. When one considers the extent of the State of California, which embraces nearly as many square miles as are comprised in the New England and Middle States combined, or, in other words, a territory sufficiently large to form twenty-four States of the size of Massachusetts, one will better understand the number of miles traveled in making these visitations. If also it be considered that, to reach many of the localities, it required not only transit by water, but over rough and tedious long roads, one will better understand the fatigue endured and the time required. Fatigue and time, however, are not to be arrayed in opposition to the pleasure enjoyed, the instruction imparted, and the information obtained, resulting from an individual association with the brethren, listening to their grievances, reconciling differences, establishing closer relations, and having an exact knowledge of the community, its resources and probable future, in connection with the fraternity. It is true that the duty performed in making these visitations was self-imposed, yet it is a duty which I think pertains to the office of the Grand Master, and I sincerely trust that it may have continuance."

The address touchingly alludes to the death of two honored Masons in California. Bre. William Edward Moody, Assistant Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and Henry Huntley Haight, former Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge, and ex-Governor of the State.

The report of the Grand Secretary is a lengthy, well written and well arranged document, full of information, but principally of local interest. Among other things reported is, that \$5,000 were sent by the Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges of California to the yellow fever sufferers in the South.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. William H. Hill, covers 123 pages, and reviews the proceedings of fifty-six Grand Jurisdictions in a succinct and pleasant manner. One and a half pages are devoted to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, 1877. Of Grand Master Munson's address, Bro. Hill says: "It is able and one of the best we have read."

The Grand Lodge was in session five days, and much business was dispatched—routine in nature, and local in interest.

The Grand Master was re-elected for a fourth term. The Grand Secretary, Alexander Gurdon Abell, of San Francisco, was also re-elected.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 207; Initiated, 464; Master Masons, 12,281. All the subordinates made returns and paid their dues in full. The annual dues in a majority of the Lodges are \$12; the fee for the degrees ranges from \$50 to \$100—none below \$50; in ten, the fee is \$100.

CONNECTICUT.

The Grand Lodge held its ninety-first Annual Communication in the city of New Haven, commencing January 15th, 1879, M. W. Dwight Phelps, Grand Master, presiding. One hundred and nine out of one hundred and twelve subordinate Lodges were represented.

The address of the Grand Master relates principally to local and routine matters. Referring to the controversy between the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Quebec, he expresses the opinion that the American Lodges should make common cause with the latter in resisting the encroachments of the former. On this subject the Grand Lodge passed forcible resolutions in favor of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. Concerning the differences between Cuba and Colon, the Grand Lodge continued consideration of the matter until the next Communication.

All the Lodges made returns and paid dues. Over \$2,300 were contributed during the summer and fall of 1878, to the yellow fever sufferers. A resolution was adopted that just previous to closing, the roll should be called, and that all Lodges not then represented should be deemed delinquent in representation; at the call, seventeen Lodges were found unrepresented.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, and is an excellent epitome of Masonic doings in the different jurisdictions. Of the Orphan Asylum in North Carolina, he says: "It is indeed a grand achievement, and worthy the fraternity which originated it. Long may it live and prosper, and prove to be one of the proudest monuments of that holy principle which is the underlying basis on which the superstructure of our fraternity is erected."

Bro. Wheeler records Bro. Edwin G. Reade as the Grand Master elected in 1877. Bro. Reade was Grand Master in 1866 and 1867, but Bro. Munson in 1877.

The election of Grand Officers resulted in the selection of Israel M. Bullock, of Bridgeport, as Grand Master, and Bro. J. K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number of initiations, 445; number of Masons, 14,968. Total receipts, \$2,825.27.

DAKOTA.

Fifth Annual Communication was had at Yankton, June 10th, 1879, Grand Master George H. Hand, presiding. Six out of eleven subordinate Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master in his address speaks encouragingly of the prospects of Masonry in his jurisdiction—"a jurisdiction," says he, "that is great not in the number of members acknowledging allegiance to this Grand Lodge, but great in the vast extent of its territory, from which future States and jurisdictions will be created." In his judgment the invasion of the rights and jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Scotland was "wanton, unjustifiable and reprehensible." And he also animadverts sharply upon the conduct of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, which has hesitated to allow two of its subordinate Lodges that are within the territorial jurisdiction of Dakota, to affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Dakota.

The Grand Lodge, by strong resolutions, endorsed the sentiments of the Grand Master in regard to the controversy between Scotland and Quebec, postponed the consideration of the differences between Cuba and Colon, and also of the application for recognition by the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and recognized the Grand Lodge of New Mexico.

George H. Hand, Yankton, was re-elected Grand Master, and Charles T. McCoy, Bon Homme, Grand Secretary.

There was no report on Foreign Correspondence.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number initiated, 40; total number of Masons, 404. Dues paid, \$241.75.

DELAWARE.

The Grand Lodge held its seventy-second Annual Communication at Wilmington, on second and third days of October, 1878, M. W. Thomas N. Williams, Grand Master, presiding. Nineteen out of twenty-nine subordinate Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master's address is short and business like. He reports the condition of Masonry in the jurisdiction as harmonious and prosperous. His reported decisions are as follows:

"1st. The Treasurer of a Lodge has no right to pay an account due himself, until it has passed the Lodge.

"2d. It requires a *unanimous ballot* to re-admit a brother who has dimitted from his Lodge.

"3d. The certificate of the Master or Secretary of a Lodge, is not sufficient evidence of the absence of an entry, after the proceedings have been approved by the Lodge.

"4th. A Lodge cannot ballot to confer any one of the three degrees at a *called Communication*.

"5th. No member of any subordinate Lodge shall be suspended for non-payment of dues, until after charges have been preferred, and trial has been had."

On the subject of Masonic Discipline, he comments truthfully and admirably as follows :

"My attention has been called to the great want of "*Masonic Discipline*" in some of our Lodges, over the conduct of those who profess, and call themselves *Masons*. It is becoming more than ever necessary that Masonry should be bold in the declaration of its principles, and that it should as boldly determine to enforce its admirable tenets. Temperance is a cardinal virtue in Masonry. If this virtue be inscribed upon our banner, and if that banner be proudly waving in its purity over the temple, why should it be allowed, from time to time, to be disgraced by the workmen that are engaged in their labors beneath its folds of beauty? Shall Masons persist in continual, flagrant violations of all moral law, and in open and constant disregard of the most sacred teachings of our Order, thereby bringing shame upon the craft, and we refuse or neglect to punish the transgressor?

"Do not the immoral practices of some of our brethren stamp the *living lie* upon their profession and *Masonic characters*? With all the charity which the most generous heart can exercise, are we not compelled to acknowledge that we have too often denounced these things, and yet allowed our members to indulge in them? My brethren, if our institution be honest, in its proclamation of hostility to vice, it will not *tolerate*, and even *nourish* in its bosom, those members who habitually practice those vices that are in violation of Masonic principles and morality. If our erring brethren will not be restrained from disreputable practices, by words of *loving counsel*, let us not hesitate to visit condemnation upon vice in all its forms, and ever maintain by strict discipline, the high moral standard of Masonry."

The conclusion of the address contains the following robust and eloquent eulogium upon Masonry :

"Kingdoms, empires and republics have risen, flourished and decayed with age, since the advent of the Order of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. While the innumerable institutions founded at different ages of the world, for

the amelioration of the mental, moral and physical condition of man have passed away, Masonry has silently pursued her course—a passive witness of political and religious conflicts, that scattered ruin and desolation over the fairest fortunes of this fair globe. Her mission is one of peace; and although *criticism, slander and envy* have, under every conceivable pretext, persecuted her, under the banner of Love, she has, in her silent march, protected by the sword of Truth, maintained the conflict, and has spread a zone of philanthropy about a world. My brethren, let us cherish our Order, guard it from all evil influences, and let us live up to the true principles of our *Masonic profession*, looking with confidence to the great *Light* that has guided us through past ages.”

The business of the Grand Lodge was conducted with much dispatch, and nothing of particular interest engaged its attention.

It was resolved that no petition for initiation into a subordinate Lodge should be received unless it contained the statement that the petitioner had not theretofore petitioned any Lodge of Masons for initiation, and been rejected.

The Grand Master had, under a former resolution of the Grand Lodge, appointed a Grand Lecturer, and at this Communication it was resolved, “That the office of Grand Lecturer being extra-constitutional, superfluous and unnecessary, is hereby abolished.” This was short work, and Bro. C. C. King, the Grand Lecturer, “stepped down and out,” pocketing a resolution “for the zealous, able and efficient manner” in which he had done his work.

The Grand Lodge suffered, during the year, the loss by death of Past Grand Master George W. Chaytor, and the Grand Lodge took proper action thereon. In the report of the committee on his death, it was stated that “he stood in his knowledge of Masonic law and all that pertained to the rules, regulations and usages of this jurisdiction, without a peer.”

The Grand Lodge tax on membership was reduced from fifty to forty cents.

No general report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence appears in the proceedings, the Grand Lodge having voted down a resolution authorizing the committee to print it. That action saved the Grand Lodge a few dollars, but rendered the printed proceedings less interesting.

Bro. John Taylor was elected Grand Master, and Bro. W. S. Hayes (re-elected) Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 29; initiated, 43; raised, 39; passed, 37; Master Masons, 1,235; amount of dues to Grand Lodge, \$756.00; amount of dues paid, \$567.50.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Grand Lodge held a "Stated" Communication in January, 1878, "Semi-Annual" in May, "Annual" and "Installation" Communication in December, and two Special Communications for the exemplification of the work.

The Grand Master in his address, referring to the condition of Masonry in his jurisdiction, says:

"In compliance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge Constitution, attended by the officers of the Grand Lodge, I have just completed the annual grand visitations to the constituent Lodges. The examination into the work and affairs of the Lodges has been complete and thorough, and I am glad to be able to report that the result has been in all respects highly gratifying. The work has been done in conformity to the requirements of the Grand Lodge; the books have been neatly and correctly kept. Indeed, some of them are marvels of elegance and accuracy. With very few exceptions, the Lodges have greatly reduced the average indebtedness of their members for Lodge dues, and have larger cash balances on hand than at our last visitation, and this notwithstanding the pressure of hard times and the small amount of work done in the jurisdiction. An unusually large amount has been disbursed in charity, and the present prosperous and flourishing condition of the Lodges fully demonstrates that their management has been entrusted to wise, judicious and intelligent officers, who have honestly and faithfully performed their duties."

The Grand Lodge has a Masonic and miscellaneous library of 2,843 volumes. Bro. Singleton, Grand Secretary, is deeply versed in Masonic lore, as his exhaustive report on Foreign Correspondence shows, and proposes to write a history of the Order in the District of Columbia, which is looked for with anxiety.

The sum of \$1,552.20 was contributed during 1878 to the yellow fever sufferers of the South.

Bro. Horace A. Whitney was elected Grand Master, and Bro. W. R. Singleton, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 21; number of Master Masons, 2,954; total receipts from Lodges, \$2,860.

FLORIDA.

Fiftieth Annual Communication was held in the city of Jacksonville, commencing January 21st, 1870, M. W. Grand Master W. A. McLean, presiding. Fifty-six of eighty-one subordinate Lodges were represented.

In his address the Grand Master says:

"For your encouragement, I may be permitted to say, that from my observation during the past year, I am of the opinion that, in our own, and many other jurisdictions, Masonry never occupied a higher place of purity and progress than at the present time, and the indications point to increased effort on the part of the fraternity to elevate its moral standard so high as to impress the better classes of all nations and kindreds, that its principles are sublime, its morals pure, and that its mission is nothing less than the inculcation of a better, purer, higher life among men.

"But this grand achievement, however desirable, can be accomplished only by united efforts and practical labor; and first of all, it must be well understood that some grand foundation principle lies at the basis of every science; and the sooner it is understood to good purpose that the superstructure of Free Masonry is erected upon a basis higher, purer, and more substantial than mere forms and ceremonies, the better will it be for the Order.

"We greatly fear that by far too many of those whose exalted privilege it is to stand within the Mystic Circle, endeavor to persuade themselves, and others, that by a faithful observance of the various forms and ceremonies practiced in the Lodge, nothing more is required; and that if the ritual is well understood, they are not only accepted, but acceptable and highly distinguished Masons; but it will not do to depend upon these in Masonry any more than in the Church, for, sooner or later, they become mere empty sound."

Among the decisions reported by the Grand Master, and endorsed by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

Question: Brother A B is charged with the crime of murder. Has the Lodge a right to try him for the offence before the civil courts take cognizance of the matter?

"Answer: A member charged with the crime of murder may be tried by his Lodge at any time. The trial or investigation need not be delayed to such time as the courts may move in the matter. A sound discretion, however, should be exercised on the part of the Lodge: as to whether or not a Masonic trial or investigation is likely to defeat the ends of justice by putting the offender on his guard, and causing him to absent himself so that the law cannot be enforced against him; or will have a tendency to bias or prejudice the minds of his peers for or against him, are proper subjects for consideration by the Lodge, and in the consideration of which it must be governed by existing circumstances.

"Q. Has the Lodge the right to try a member charged with the crime of murder while such member is under sentence of suspension for non-payment of dues?

"A. Suspension for non-payment of dues does not relieve the suspended brother from his Masonic obligations; nor does it deprive his Lodge of jurisdiction over him. If, during his suspension, he should be guilty of gross un-

masonic conduct, his Lodge has the power to try him on charges, and expel him."

Brother Dawkins, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented a short report on the Order in general, but did not furnish a review of the proceedings of the various Grand Lodges.

In his report the Grand Secretary mentions the fact that the only thing in the shape of writing or correspondence that he has been able to elicit from a Secretary of a certain subordinate Lodge, was a *receipt for a registered letter*, which Bro. Dawkins sent him.

The Grand Master and Secretary were re-elected.

The mileage and *per diem* of members of Grand Lodge amounted to \$904.10, and salaries, &c., of Grand Officers \$1,350.80, other expenses \$483.87, the aggregate of which was \$416.45 in excess of amount on hand. Would it not be well for our Florida brethren to give up their *per diem*?

GEORGIA.

The Grand Lodge met in its ninety-second Annual Communication, in Macon, Georgia, on October 29th, 1878, M. W. James M. Mobley, Grand Master, R. W. J. Emmett Blachshear, Grand Secretary. Two hundred and forty-six subordinate Lodges were represented. Twenty Grand Jurisdictions, Egypt among them, were represented also. The report of Committee on Finance shows receipts \$14,099.46, on hand at last report \$886.20, disbursements \$14,985.66. The arrearages of seventy-four subordinates aggregate \$2,034.02.

The total indebtedness of the Grand Lodge is \$30,100, and though the credit of the Grand Lodge is stated to be good and its bonds eagerly sought, the debt seems to give our Georgia brethren much anxiety. And well it may, when they are paying interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum. The Grand Master in his address referred to the indebtedness as follows:

"For several years we have been passing through a very severe panic, which has caused a great depression in all business pursuits; confidence has been shaken, private obligations disregarded, and their blighting effects fallen upon the virtue, morality and religion of the people. Before this reverse of fortune, the Grand Lodge had a handsome surplus of money; the disposition of which was a subject of controversy, until it was decided to build this Masonic Temple; at a time when real estate, material and labor were high; rents were also commanding good prices, which gave reason to believe that if the building should cost more than the amount of money on hand, it would soon be realized and returned from the rents of the lower business rooms, and we would not long remain in debt, and the rents continue to be a source of revenue to be ap-

propriated for the good of Masonry and the honor of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. In this we have been disappointed, real estate, rents, incomes, and the value of all products have all depreciated in value, while taxation and the burthens of the government have been onerous and heavy, thereby shrinking the resources of individuals as well as Lodges. Charters were forfeited for non-payment of dues; brethren unwisely felt their distress so great, and burthens of family and government so heavy, they could not spare the small amount of dues required of them; others who desired to unite with us, were discouraged for the same reasons. In this they greatly erred, for some of these very persons, and I must say, though with pain and sorrow, *brethren, too*, could find money to spend for that which was not only unnecessary and useless, but a great curse and injury upon them and their families. I allude to the intemperate use of intoxicating liquors, as well as less offensive so termed luxuries of life, not observing the great cardinal virtues of Masonry."

The remedy he suggests, is plain and simple—"Reduce the expenses, and increase the income." That, certainly, is a sure method of getting ting out of debt and becoming rich. But the question still recurs, *how?* He exhorted the subordinate Lodges to pay their dues promptly, and suggested biennial sessions of the Grand Lodge. This suggestion was adopted subsequently by the Grand Lodge, in Section 1, Article III of the new Constitution, which provides that "the Grand Lodge shall assemble as such once at least in every two years, in the city of Macon, Georgia, unless some special exigency shall arise to prevent; in that case, the Grand Master, or Grand Officers acting in his stead, shall summon the Grand Lodge at such place as he may deem proper: *Provided*, That after the year 1882, the sessions of the Grand Lodge shall be annual: *And provided further*, That the next session of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the year 1880." And in Sections 2 and 3, Article II of the By-Laws, it is provided that the Grand Master and a committee of five, shall assemble at Macon, on the last Tuesday in October, 1879 and 1881, to examine returns, &c., from subordinate Lodges, and all the funds received, less the expenses, shall be applied to the payment of interest and principal of the Grand Lodge debt. Power is also given to the Grand Master to arrest the charters of subordinate Lodges for failure to send in their returns and dues.

We commend this plan, and hope and believe that it will prove effective. We predict that the report of the Finance Committee in 1880, will show a large reduction of the debt, and that the affairs of the Grand Lodge will not suffer serious derangement by reason of its two years of "refreshment."

It seems to us that in so prosperous a State as Georgia is, where the State bonds bearing four per cent. interest are so eagerly bought and held, ten per cent. is an enormous interest for the Grand Lodge to pay on its bonds. Certainly, if the credit of the Grand Lodge is as good as represented, the interest could be reduced to at least six per cent. on the part of the debt past due.

The Grand Master's address, though opening with the stereotyped sentiment that "the rapid flight of time brings us through another year," is excellent in all its parts—practical, sensible, and gracefully written.

Referring in strongly condemnatory words, to the action of the "Grand Orient of France" in striking out the requirement that every applicant for admission thereto must believe in the existence of God, the Grand Master says:

"Free and Accepted Masonry has always been one and the same throughout the world—including among its members persons of all religious beliefs, and nationality, bound together in the charmed circle of charity and good fellowship, in meekness, gentleness and purity, without the least appearance of sectarianism. By this it has conquered the devastating hand of time, and brought before its altars Kings, Princes, Priests, Potentates, and all the honors and powers of the world. None could foretell the result if this French innovation be permitted to stand. Better, brethren, hold fast to the old landmarks of Masonry. I trust no such change will be made, and in the name of Free and Accepted Masonry, and of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, let us now and from henceforth, protest against this action of the Grand Orient of France, which admits Masons who do not believe in the true and living God. We must admit those only who believe in God. Let that harmony and brotherhood of Masons as to faith, which has long been observed throughout the world, never be disturbed. We have lived and prospered under it for centuries, with persons of all denominations, sects and religious belief, but all agreeing on one belief in God. The great foundation stone must not be touched."

On this subject the following resolutions, offered by Bro. Samuel Lawrence, of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, were adopted, to-wit:

"Resolved, That for this flagrant attempt to undermine "of Temple," the Grand Lodge of Georgia disowns the Grand Orient of France as a Masonic Body, and repudiates all Masonic intercourse with them.

"Resolved, That the Lodges under the obedience of this Grand Lodge are hereby more strictly forbidden and enjoined against any Masonic intercourse with all persons whomsoever, claiming to be Masons and acknowledging obedience to the Grand Orient of France."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. Samuel Lawrence, and covers one hundred and thirty-eight pages. It shows that he carefully examined the reports of proceedings of all the Grand Jurisdictions in communication with his, and that he has the knack of selecting what is of general interest to the Order. His comments are, in the majority of cases, pleasant, sometimes humorous and rollicking, and once and awhile sharp and stinging. In his conclusion he says:

"A Report on Correspondence should be the one by which the inner working, the usagé, and sentiments of the Craft in the various jurisdictions are brought nearer and made clearer to the view of the brethren for whom it is prepared,—provoking examination of the doubtful, emulation of the good, and avoidance of the bad. Such, in a degree, we have attempted to make this. To prepare the result before you, we had to turn and read, and con near ten thousand pages; and, while some will think it is too long, and few, very few, that it is too short, we could not make it more, nor less. Not more, because the caution given in the resolution that revived this committee was ever in our eye; not less, because that, we felt, would be unjust to the Sister Jurisdictions, the subjects, and the writers reviewed, as well as to the brethren for whose information we specially labored. Now that our labor is over, and the imperfect result before you, we only hope the profit, if any, to be derived therefrom will be shared by us all."

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected for another term.

ILLINOIS.

Grand Lodge held its thirty-ninth Annual Communication in Chicago, commencing October 1st, 1878, M. W. Joseph Robbins, presiding. Of six hundred and ninety-two subordinate Lodges, six hundred and twenty-eight were represented. The charters of three Lodges which had become dormant were arrested. Recognition was given to the Grand Lodges of New Mexico and Indian Territory, and denied to the Grand Lodge of Colon.

The Grand Master's address is an able one. He records the death of several prominent members of the Order in Illinois, mentions that more than six thousand dollars was contributed to the yellow fever sufferers, records the failure of the Grand Treasurer, who had in his possession over fifteen thousand dollars, fifty per cent. of which will be lost to the Grand Lodge; alludes to a decision of the Supreme Court of Illinois in favor of a subordinate Lodge in a suit brought against it by an expelled member to recover the fees paid by him for the degrees. In referring to his refusal to grant a dispensation to a Lodge to join the funeral procession of one of its own members, who, at his own request, was buried by an Odd Fellows' Lodge of which he was also a member, the Grand Master says:

"The rule is that the Lodge should not appear—as a Lodge—on funeral occasions unless it appears for the purpose of Masonic labor, of which the rites of Masonic sepulture are a part. It bars no Mason from attending the funeral of a brother who is not buried with our services. On the contrary, unless the teachings of Masonry have been lost on its members, they ought to be more ready than others to honor the memory of one of their number by their indi-

vidual presence at his funeral, and especially in a case of this kind where it is known that the deceased especially desired their presence, although he did not desire to be buried with Masonic rites.

"In the cases that have come under my own observation, the real grievance has seemed to be that Masonry would not assimilate its practice to that of those modern growths, which, unlike it, have received from the far past, no legacy of unchangeable law. For myself, I do not regret that its laws are not elastic enough to permit it to become—or seem to become—a competitor with other societies for public *eclat*. I would have it maintain its ancient rule of modest propriety which forbids it to thrust itself before the public in its organized capacity, unless there is Masonic work to be done, and then only when solicited to do so by those who have a right to ask it.

"There may be instances when our feelings lead us to wish that the law was more elastic, just as we do when the inflexible rule requiring physical fitness excludes some dear friend whom we feel to be otherwise so well qualified for the Institution; but when we let our judgment rather than our feelings have sway, I think we shall conclude that in this, as in other things, it is not wise to break a salutary general rule to meet individual cases where for the moment its maintenance seems to us to work a hardship.

"So long as it is maintained inflexibly and impartially no personal animus can be imputed to those on whom falls the duty of enforcing it, but every one will understand that it is the law, and not the individual or the Lodge, that decides the question."

In relation to laying corner-stones, the Grand Master states the law as follows:

"In determining whether an invitation of this kind may be accepted, reference must be had to two principal points: *First*, whether the building or structure whose corner-stone is to be laid is of a public character; and, *second*, whether the authority which extends the invitation is ample and unquestioned. Unless both these points can be affirmatively determined beyond cavil, Masonry cannot afford, in the presence of opponents watchful for a pretext to condemn it, to come before the public. It is far better that it be accused of punctiliousness, than that it should compromise its dignity by assuming a position to which its title is not clear beyond the possibility of denial."

The reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer show that the receipts from all sources were \$31,394 during the year 1878; expenses \$26,900, of which \$17,000 was for mileage and *per diem* of members of Grand Lodge.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. T. T. Gurney, Chairman of the Committee, and is a thorough and able review of the doings of Masons in all parts of the world.

STATISTICS.

Lodges, 692; total membership, 38,616; decrease in membership, 770.

Theodore T. Gurney, Chicago, was elected Grand Master, and John F. Burrill, Springfield, re-elected Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

Grand Lodge held its sixty-second Annual Communication in Indianapolis, commencing the 27th May, 1879, M. W. Robert Van Valzah, Grand Master, presiding. Out of five hundred and twenty-five subordinate Lodges, four hundred and seventy-seven were represented.

The Grand Lodges of Cuba and of New Mexico were recognized. The Grand Master's address relates chiefly to local matters. Referring to the finances of the Grand Lodge, which are in a deplorable condition, the Grand Master says :

"The decrease of the amount intended to have been applied to the principal of the debt at this time, is due to the fact that the membership has decreased. There has been a large number of dimitts granted during the past year, and an unusually large number have been suspended for non-payment of dues. This, of course, reduces the revenue of the Grand Lodge in the same ratio. But if Masons will dimit, and if they will suffer themselves to be suspended, because of the embarrassment of the Grand Lodge—let them go. Masonry is better off without them. We have an abiding faith that the good and true will stand firm, and in the end victory will perch upon the banner of the Craft in Indiana."

A select committee was appointed to consider a "Lottery" or "Gift Concert" scheme of a subordinate Lodge, among other things reported as follows :

"The committee finds much to condemn in the method by which tickets were disposed of to purchasers. The scheme was represented as one to aid in the construction of a temple, within whose walls Masonic teachings should be promulgated; in some instances this was done by prominent Masons, in whose integrity members of the Craft and the public alike confided. All who participated in the swindle, or had knowledge of its character, and tacitly allowed their friends to be deceived, deserve censure.

"Your committee, entertaining the view that all lottery schemes and gift enterprises are disreputable, immoral, unlawful and unmasonic, would respectfully recommend that the rules and regulations for the government of subordinate Lodges be so amended as to discountenance and prohibit participation in all such schemes for the purpose of raising funds."

Bellamy S. Sutton, of Shelbyville, was elected Grand Master, and William H. Smythe, of Indianapolis, re-elected Grand Secretary. The report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence contains no review of the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges. On account of the expense, the Grand Lodge in 1878, declined to print the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence; but Bro. McLallen, the Chairman, having prepared the report, printed and circulated it at his own expense. The Grand Lodge, however, at the session of 1879, but without the request of Bro. McL., re-imbursed his outlay.

The receipts from all sources for the year 1878-'79, were \$38,111, disbursements for expenses, part of debt, interest, &c., \$22,815. Of the latter sum \$7,463 was mileage and *per diem* of officers and members of Grand Lodge. Would it not be well for our Indiana brethren to omit the payment of mileage and *per diem* for a few years until they relieve themselves of the heavy debt resting upon them.

STATISTICS.

Lodges, 554; charters arrested, 11; number of Masons, 25,045.

IOWA.

Grand Lodge held its thirty-sixth Annual Communication in Dubuque, commencing June 3d, 1879, M. W. Jeremiah W. Wilson, Grand Master, presiding.

In extending a welcome to the Grand Lodge in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements and the Lodges of Dubuque, the "Queen City of Iowa," Past Grand Master Guilbert, among other things, pertinently said:

"I ask you to reflect for a moment, ere you become immersed in the excitements of this Annual Feast of Tabernacles, upon these momentous questions:

"Is not the Masonic Craft governed too much by the supreme legislatures?

"Is it not quite possible that Grand Lodges are slowly arrogating to themselves more power than the few ancient landmarks contemplated that the subordinate Lodges should bestow upon them?

"Is it not "very meet and proper"—yea, is it not our bounden duty—to acknowledge by our acts here that there are higher and holier claims upon us as Grand Lodge representatives—so long as we are without an orphans' home in this jurisdiction—than those involved in a scramble for Grand Lodge offices, or a scrupulously prompt collection of our mileage dues, or long drawn out debates upon technicalities, which, it is possible, may leave the questions at issue all the darker because of the explanations?"

The Grand Master's address is plain, pointed and practical, relating almost entirely to the details of his work during the year. It is a model for its thoroughly business-like nature. He records the death of several prominent

Past Grand officers and members of the Craft—among others of Thomas Hart Benton, Past Grand Master, nephew and namesake of the great Missouri Senator. He also states that \$2,578 was contributed during 1878 to the yellow fever sufferers.

The report of Grand Secretary T. S. Parvin is the most thorough and complete we have ever read. He has filled and adorned the office for thirty-five years, and though the writer has never before had the opportunity or enjoyed the pleasure of reading Bro. Parvin's reports, he at once recognizes the devoted zeal, careful work and tasty arrangement of an experienced Secretary and faithful Mason. Besides the regular routine work of the Secretary's office in preparing and publishing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge in most perfect and handsome style, Bro. Parvin has added to the proceedings obituary reports of prominent Masons, of whom death robbed the jurisdiction during the preceding year.

The Committee on Finance, among other recommendations, suggested that the preparation and printing of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be hereafter dispensed with, which was concurred in by the Grand Lodge. The recommendation of the committee that the mileage of the members of the Grand Lodge be reduced, was not concurred in, however.

Albert Cutler Abbott, of Marshalltown, was elected Grand Master, and T. S. Parvin re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Lodges working, 358; total number of Masons, 18,491; total receipts, \$11,130; disbursements, 6,293; mileage, \$5,276.

KENTUCKY.

Grand Lodge met in its seventy-ninth Annual Communication in Louisville, on the 22d October, 1878, and remained in session four days, M. W. Campbell H. Johnson, Grand Master, presided, and all the Grand Officers, seventeen Past Grand Masters and representatives from a majority of the subordinate Lodges were present.

The Grand Master's address is full and practical, and indicates that his duties were intelligently appreciated and faithfully performed during the year. He complains, somewhat, of the many trifling matters that were submitted to him for his decision during the year, and says that the bulk of his correspondence "was about matters that should not have puzzled the least informed of our more than twenty thousand members."

Among the decisions reported by the Grand Master, we note the following :

"1. A subordinate Lodge has no right to sell or otherwise dispose of its effects, when it has in view the surrender of its charter, or believes that their charter will be arrested.

"2. Any Master Mason in good standing can prefer charges against an offender, whether he be a member of the same Lodge or not.

"3. Taking the name of God in vain, or blaspheming, is a Masonic offense.

"4. The action of a Lodge expelling a member severs his connection with that Lodge. If the Grand Lodge re-instates him he stands as a dimitted Mason in good standing; and to become a member again of any Lodge he must petition regularly and abide his time.

"5. A Lodge can remit the dues of one of its suspended members and re-instate him.

"6. A Lodge has the right to bury a non-affiliated Mason if they elect to do so.

"7. A Lodge cannot remit the dues (or receive the same from the family or friends) of a dead brother, who died under suspension for non-payment of dues, and bury him with Masonic honors.

"8. A person who cannot write is ineligible for initiation.

"9. A clause in the By-Laws of a Lodge setting forth that ministers shall receive the degrees free, is in violation of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and is therefore null and void. A Lodge can donate the amount afterward if it so elect.

"10. The violation of the chastity of a *female* is a Masonic offense, and should be punished as such. An offense against Masonry is a violation of the laws of God or of the country, therefore we are not only bound to respect those within the pale, *but all*.

"11. An officer of a Lodge cannot dimit or resign. He obligates himself to perform certain duties for a certain time, consequently a resignation or dimit would be a violation of his free and voluntary obligation."

(The Committee on Jurisprudence refused to concur in the Grand Master's decision that "a person who cannot write is ineligible for initiation," and reported that they know of no such law making ability to write a qualification. This report of the committee was concurred in by the Grand Lodge.)

The Grand Master recommends a reduction of the *per diem* and mileage of delegates, the former being now four dollars, and the latter five cents per mile to and from the place of meeting of Grand Lodge. (The *per diem* and mileage of the delegates, &c., at the session whose proceedings we are reporting, amounted to the snug sum of \$14,795.20.) He also recommends that the session shall not be longer than three days; also that no dispensation should be granted for a new Lodge unless upon a guarantee that the *per diem* and mileage of its delegates should not be in excess of the dues paid by it to the Grand Lodge.

He also deprecates the custom of the incorporation of subordinate Lodges, and says "it has become so prevalent in Kentucky that in any serious emergency it will be impossible, or at least extremely difficult, for the Grand Lodge to maintain necessary supremacy." He also quotes, in support of his disap-

proval of such incorporation, the opinion of several distinguished jurists and Masons, one of whom correctly declares that "it sweeps away the appellate jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and Grand Master, and subordinates the Masonic to the civil authorities upon questions strictly Masonic."

On the "Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home," completed during the year, the Grand Master says:

"At no time in the history of Kentucky Masonry has there been a more glorious moment, and the heart of every Mason in this jurisdiction should well up with pride, not only that he is a Mason *tried* and *true*, *trusted* and *honored*, but that he is a *Kentucky Mason*. The Temple—'The Home'—is completed! Great and joyous tidings to the Craft—

"To the Power Almighty, who ever has guided
The tribes of old Israel, exalting their fame;
To Him who hath governed our hearts undivided,
Let's send forth our voices to praise His great name.

"There is no more occasion for level or plumb-line,
For trowel or gavel, for compass or square;
Our works are finished, *The Home completed*
And we shall be greeted as workmen most rare.

"This magnificent building, like Solomon's Temple, has occupied more than seven years in its construction, and has engaged so many workmen, and been directed by so many *wise and celebrated* Craftsmen, may, like that celebrated Temple, give way to the lapse of time, the ruthless hand of ignorance, or the devastation of war, but the holy purposes for which it was erected will indelibly engrave it upon the hearts of the Fraternity, and its praises will be transmitted from generation to generation, and thus it will prove itself an indestructible monument to the reality of Masonic charity and the benevolence of Kentucky Masons.

"The Board of Directors, after years of arduous labor, are now rewarded by seeing the fruits of their labor in a completed charity not equaled in all the land. Their labor has been severe, but their reward is great; and the hearts of the widows and orphans now sheltered, protected, clad, and fed under the protecting roof, and the multitude of such who may follow them, will give honor to their names, and through them bless and praise the Order that has provided such munificent comforts for those who are left homeless and houseless. But is this all? I dare say that could I penetrate the blissful realms of Paradise, and walk through their pearly gates, and traverse the golden streets, I would be met by the hundreds of true and tried brethren who have gone to that blissful abode, leaving their loved ones in the care of their brethren here who would be eager to express their pleasure in the well-kept obligations of Kentucky Masons."

The Grand Lodge was fully occupied during its session with routine work, but we note nothing of general interest to the Craft.

One of the most interesting incidents of the session was the dedication of the "Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home," on Wednesday. A great crowd of people from all parts of the State were present. The history of the "Home" is as follows:

THE HOME.

"On the 23d of November, 1866, a number of brethren of the Masonic fraternity met at the Masonic Temple, in Louisville, to consider as to the best means necessary to properly care for the destitute widows and orphans of deceased Masons of the State of Kentucky, and for sick and afflicted Masons. The result of the meeting was the application for and obtaining from the Legislature, January 15, 1867, a liberal charter, incorporating this Institution.

"On the 24th of September, 1869, the late T. T. Shreve donated three and a half acres of beautifully situated ground to the organization, and at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in the following month, the corner-stone of the Home was laid with appropriate ceremony. During the first twelve months the north wing of the building was completed, and at the meeting of the Grand Lodge, on the 18th of October, 1870, the first dedication of the building occurred with the solemn and impressive services of the Order. This much of the building being then ready for occupancy, all the available room was soon filled with the widows and orphans, for whose benefit it was intended. Such an Institution, it was at once seen, was not only a thing of immediate benefit, but an institution of real necessity, and the Masonic fraternity of Louisville at once went to work to secure the completion of the entire building as it now stands. Soliciting agents were appointed to canvass the State for subscriptions, annual St. John's picnics were held at Central Park, and in addition to the work of the brethren, the ladies formed an aid association, with Mrs. Susan P. Hepburn, President, and by their untiring efforts from year to year, put many thousand dollars into the treasury.

"In the summer of 1875 the work was progressing rapidly to completion, when, on the 2d day of June, a large portion of the building—the entire main building and the towers—were destroyed by a severe storm. But this circumstance seemed only to bestir the Masons of the city and State to renewed energy. Soon every brick and stone was replaced, and for nearly two years the building has stood a grand and beautiful monument to the memory of its builders, giving the comforts of a home to hundreds of unfortunates.

THE DEDICATION.

"The Grand Lodge at its annual meeting last year resolved to dedicate the building with imposing ceremonies on the 22d of October, 1878. The rain on Tuesday caused a postponement of the ceremonies for one day. The circum-

stances were in every way opportune. A brighter, more beautiful day, or one better suited to the occasion, could not have occurred. The sun shone down through a cloudless sky, mingling a genial glow with the frost-tinged breezes, both conspiring to strengthen the body and cheer the spirit."

At the dedicatory exercises, addresses were made by Bro. T. L. Jefferson, Grand Master Johnson, Governor J. B. McCreary, Colonel W. C. P. Breckenridge and others, and an ode sung, composed by P. G. M. Robert Morris. Want of space alone, not lack of inclination, prevents us from quoting some of the many beautiful and eloquent passages with which all the addresses abound.

At the election of officers for the ensuing year, Thomas S. Pettit, of Owensboro, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. Hiram Bassett (re-elected) Grand Secretary.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. Robert Morris, Past Grand Master, who was the Chairman of the Committee from 1853 to 1858. The report is well made, and gives an excellent synopsis of the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges in communication with Kentucky. It covers 207 pages of closely printed matter. The style of Bro. Morris is vigorous, his language graceful and his comments intelligent, valuable and just. Hear him as he opens his report:

"In commencing this paper the chairman of the committee cannot refrain from a personal reminiscence. The last document of this kind, written by him, was composed in 1858, the year of his election as Grand Master. For five consecutive years preceding, this duty had devolved upon him. He had become accustomed to giving the summer months, each year, to the work, and a labor of love it was. Surrounded by little ones, since passed up into manhood and womanhood, the music of domestic life had mingled with the pleasant sentiments of his fellow-chairmen. Private correspondence from genial souls, since transferred to the higher sphere, supplemented printed pages, and afforded him matter for consideration. There is embodied in his Foreign Correspondence reports of 1853-'58 an association of such persons as Wingate, Pfister, Merrick, Ruthven, Tucker, French, King, Lewis, (Winslow,) Town, Milnor, Swigert, Dove, Penn, Hayward, Storer, and many more in this country; and in foreign parts, George Oliver, Michael Furnell, and others—whose very names are passing from the memory of the most; they can never pass from his. And as, with grey and scanty locks, dimmed eyes, and hands that confess the tremor of advancing years, your chairman begins the task allotted to him by a partiality he cannot refuse, the very faces of that dead group appear upon the pages before him, and their whispers through the midnight hour encourage him to undertake once more this pleasant though weighty work."

And his conclusion is in excellent style and spirit:

"Thus we close our labor of love. It has been, in all respects, a pleasant task. As a correspondent writes—himself one of the sharpest blades of the reportorial fraternity—"I enjoy the work ; I like the freedom and irresponsibilities of the position where one can write without feeling the constant necessity for weighing words under which a Grand Master labors. It is a nice thing to feel at liberty to *hit a head* whenever you can see one, and this a reporter can do!"

"Your chairman, while indulging in this freedom, has ever kept in mind, during the preparation of this report, that his private opinions upon Masonic questions are subordinate to the rulings of this Grand Lodge. He has endeavored to study urbanity and gentle consideration of the views of others. Having suffered in past years from harshness and misrepresentation on the part of reporters, he has learned *first*, how much pain they give to the persons at whom they are aimed, and *second*, how little influence they have in moulding the opinions of others. He has learned, he believes, *charity*, and if in anything said in this lengthy report, anything illiberal or uncharitable can be seen, he prays the reader to take his pencil and *dele* it, as the writer himself would have done had he seen it before sending it out to the world."

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 604 ; under dispensation, 4 ; initiations, 761 ; members, 18,038 ; amount paid Grand Lodge, \$16,639 ; amount paid "Home," \$17,861.

LOUISIANA.

The sixty-seventh Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at New Orleans, February 10th to 14th, 1879, inclusive.

M. W. Samuel J. Powell, Grand Master, presiding, with a representation from sixty-four Lodges.

The Grand Master very touchingly alludes to the ravages of yellow fever, which visited New Orleans in 1878, and while he portrays the "suffering, misery and want that followed in the train of this dreadful scourge," he speaks in glowing terms of the "unmeasured generosity and unstinted beneficence" of the members of the fraternity in behalf of their afflicted brethren. He says: "Their timely and munificent charities have strengthened the bond of fellowship and cemented anew our hearts to them in a closer communion, and they will stand forever as monuments to the sacredness of our fraternal relations, and to show to the world how Masons love each other."

The following are some of the decisions of the Grand Master, which appear to us proper :

"That it is not necessary for a Master elect to have the Past Master's degree before installation.

"That the fees for conferring degrees by a Lodge without jurisdiction over the candidate belong to the Lodge whose jurisdiction has been invaded.

"That a Mason's widow or daughter who marries a profane, deprives herself of all the benefits of Masonry as a right.

"That a member of a Lodge is entitled to a dimit as a right, and he cannot be compelled to pay a *pro rata* of the indebtedness of the Lodge before the dimit is granted."

The Committee on Masonic Law dissent from the last two.

The following remarks, truly Masonic in their nature, form a part of the conclusion of the address :

"In the trying scenes through which we have passed during the year, our brethren have been true to their trust, and in their unselfish and untiring efforts to relieve the distressed have beautifully reflected the teaching of Masonry ; the pestilence that walked in darkness and rioted at noon-day was stript of many terrors and spoiled of many victims ; the widow and orphan were kindly cared for, and tears were wiped away from many faces. This practical exemplification of the great moral design of Masonry is far more gratifying to me than accessions to our numbers, or the erection of costly temples."

On the question of jurisdictional rights between the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Quebec, the Grand Master presents sound views, with an expression of opinion that the act of Scotland in pretending to establish Lodges in Quebec "was without the shadow of authority, and an unwarranted invasion of her Grand Lodge sovereignty."

The Grand Lodge investments are large, and the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary show a healthy financial condition.

The Grand Lodge requested the Grand Master to re-call the commission of Bro. David Kinnear as its representative near the Grand Lodge of Scotland. It recognized the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Indian Territory and New Mexico.

Bro. John G. Fleming, Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Law, gave the following opinion, which was accepted by the Grand Lodge :

"That where a brother was on his original trial before the Grand Lodge, it would require the same vote as required in constituent Lodges, to either convict or acquit him ; but that, in cases of appeal, either in the event of reversal of sentence or ratification of same, it had always been the custom of the Grand Lodge to decide the case by a majority vote ; and that all that was necessary in the present case was a majority vote."

Bro. George H. Braughn, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented a well written and interesting report. We would be glad to follow him through it and notice many things that he said, but we

have to glide through the pages with but a glance at each, in order to satisfy our Secretary in his urgent demands for quick work. We opine that, from the chairman's prefatory explanation, he may have had an experience akin to ours.

His notice of North Carolina is brief but pleasant. He commends the address of Grand Master Munson, of 1877, and remarks "that there is a vein of sentiment and real poetic feeling in many portions of the address."

M. W. Edwin Marks was elected Grand Master, and R. W. James C. Batchelor, M. D., re-elected Grand Secretary, both of New Orleans. The membership of this jurisdiction is reported to be 5,456.

MAINE.

Grand Lodge met at Portland, May 6th, 1879, M. W. Edward P. Burnham, Grand Master, present and presiding. Out of one hundred and seventy-nine subordinate Lodges, one hundred and sixty-nine were represented.

The address of the Grand Master relates chiefly to routine matters, but contains some interesting historical dates. Referring to the Army Lodges of the Revolutionary War, he says:

"There were ten of these Lodges, the oldest being St. John's, of New York, 1775. American Union Lodge, of Connecticut, was chartered by the St. John's Grand Lodge in Massachusetts, February 15th, in the year of our Salvation, 1776, and was with the army in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey until 1783, the last meeting being held April 23, 1783, when Bro. Rose was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. General Washington was a visitor December 27, 1779. Henry Dearborn, afterwards member of Congress from the District of Maine, was a visitor April 7, 1779. John Brooks, afterwards Governor of Massachusetts, was made an Entered Apprentice August 28, 1779. I will give the form of a procession April 17, 1779: 1, Outside Tyler; 2, Wardens with white rods; 3, youngest Brother with the bag; 4, Brethren by juniority; 5, W. Master with his rod, the Treasurer on his right hand supporting the Sword of Justice, the Secretary on his left hand supporting the Bible, Square and Compass; 6, Inside Tyler.

"September 9, 1779. *Resolved*, That the moneys remaining in the treasury of this Lodge, on the 1st day of November next, shall be invested in tickets of the third class of the United States Lottery, the avails of which shall remain in the treasury, to be appropriated to the relief of the poor of the Fraternity or as the Brethren shall agree."

"Washington Army Lodge, No. 10, chartered by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, was organized November 11, 1779, at West Point, New York, Henry Sewall, of Maine, being one of the thirteen charter members. In a list of

officers and members, December 8, 1779, are the names of Captain Henry Sewall, Secretary ; Captain Moses Greenleaf, Lieutenant-Colonel Noah M. Littlefield, Doctor John Wingate, Lieutenant Joseph Tucker. In the list of those initiated are the names of N. M. Littlefield, Captain Isaac Pope, Lieutenant Joseph Leland, Lemuel Miller, Ralph H. Bowles.

"Captain Sewall became Major-General of Militia and Clerk of the United States District Court for Maine ; Captain Greenleaf was father of our P. G. M. Simon Greenleaf ; Lieutenant-Colonel Littlefield, afterwards Brigadier-General of Militia, was of Wells ; Lieutenant Tucker, of York, was grandfather of our P. G. M. Preble ; Lieutenant Leland was Master of Saco Lodge, 1856, and married the sister of P. G. M. Governor William King ; Lieutenant Miller was of Arundel ; Lieutenant Bowles, of Machias ; Captain Pope, of Wells. In 1782 the return to Grand Lodge gave the list of those who had been members, or initiated, 245."

On the subject of "Masonic Relief" the Grand Master says :

"There is a tendency to expect Lodges and the Grand Lodge to render considerable material aid in cases of destitution among Masons and their families. This arises in part from erroneous ideas imparted by some Masons to their families, and by a portion of the Masonic speakers and writers, and also from the fact that there are many beneficial societies that make a specialty of paying sick and funeral benefits. We have no such plan. We do not receive the money requisite to the carrying out of the system, and therefore should not be expected, without the means, to perform what we do not promise. The responsibility of our fraternity is individual, and cannot be shifted upon any association."

The Grand Master adverting to the fact that he had been an office bearer in the Grand Lodge from 1856 to the present year, declined re-election as Grand Master.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows that our Maine brethren have a charity fund of \$19,300.

Resolutions reported by Bro. Drummond, of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, were adopted recognizing the Grand Lodge of the Province of Manitoba, of which Samuel P. Matheson is Grand Master ; also recognizing the Grand Lodge of New Mexico ; affirming the right of the Grand Lodge of Quebec to *exclusive* jurisdiction in that province, and denouncing the encroachments of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and postponing action upon the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Colon or the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

Among amendments to the Constitution adopted, were the following :

"The Grand Lodge may restore any brother suspended or expelled, but he shall not thereby be restored to membership in his Lodge.

"No restoration by his Lodge of an expelled, or indefinitely suspended Mason, shall take effect until confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

"A concurrence of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to suspend or expel. And no Mason, whose suspension or expulsion has been confirmed by this Grand Lodge, shall be restored to the privileges of Masonry except by a unanimous vote of the members present, when such restoration may be acted on, of the Lodge by which he was so expelled or suspended, except as provided in section fifty-three."

Bro. Drummond, for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, reported on the decisions of the Grand Master, and in reference to one affirming the power of a Past Master to open a Lodge and preside therein, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, thus discusses the authority and reason for it:

"The power is not *expressly* given in our Constitution, but it is given by necessary implication in the provision forbidding the opening of a Lodge in the absence of the Masters and Wardens, *unless a Past Master is present to preside.*

"This provision was, in substance, in the Constitution adopted at the organization of our Grand Lodge, and has been retained in it ever since. It was taken from the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which retained it until about fifteen years ago, when it was dropped.

"We cannot ascertain when it was incorporated into the Constitution of that Grand Lodge, but we find it there in the Constitution of 1811. We think the rule prevailed in Massachusetts from a very early date. It was held that in the absence of the Master his authority reverted to his predecessor, that is, the Junior Past Master present. Accordingly, when Jeremy Gridley died in 1767, the Grand Lodge invited Henry Price to resume the Grand Mastership, "*as it constitutionally reverted to him.*"

"In the "Book of Constitutions" of 1798, it is stated that the Senior Warden fills the Chair when the Master is absent; but it is also said, "And although it was formerly held that, in such cases, the Master's authority ought to revert to the last Past Master who is present, yet it is now the settled rule that the authority devolves upon the Senior Warden, and in his absence upon the Junior Warden, even although a former Master be present." Then, after saying that the Wardens will generally honor a Past Master in such cases, by calling him to the Chair, but still he holds under the Warden, and cannot act until he congregates the Lodge, it adds, "If none of the officers be present *nor any former Master to take the Chair*, the members, according to seniority and merit, shall fill the places of the absent officers."

"The same Constitution also recognizes that in the absence of the Grand Master, his Deputy and the Grand Wardens, a Past Grand Master may preside.

"In Anderson's Constitutions, it is said that "in case of sickness, death or necessary absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall act as Master *pro tempore*, if no brother is present who has been Master of that Lodge before;

for in that case the absent Master's authority reverts to the last Master then present, though he cannot act until the said Senior Warden has once congregated the Lodge, or in his absence the Junior Warden."

"But in the second edition of Anderson (1738) the regulation just quoted is modified, and it is stated as the law, that in the absence of the Master the Senior Warden "fills the Chair, even though a former Master be present."

"It will be observed that both these regulations refer to cases *in which a Warden is present*, and is *limited* to those cases; so that neither of them touch the case of the absence of the Master and both Wardens.

"It has been assumed that these regulations relate to both cases, and, therefore, it has been held, that Past Masters can *never* preside save under the authority of the Master or a Warden. But it is very certain that in olden times the idea prevailed that a Master's authority in some cases reverted to his predecessors.

"And your committee, after careful and extended examination, are satisfied that the cases in which a Warden is present, have been confounded with those in which neither Master or Warden is present; and that, according to the ancient law and usage, when a Warden is present, a Past Master can act only under his authority; but that when neither a Master or Warden is present, a Past Master can open the Lodge and preside therein; and, therefore, that the provision of our Constitution in question, is in accordance with the ancient law and usage. We have abundant evidence of this in the old records.

"It is evident that, before 1723, it was held that the Past Master had this right, even when the Warden was present, but in that year it was resolved that when a Warden is present, he presides instead of a Past Master.

"In Massachusetts "Book of Constitutions," of 1798, while the doctrine, that, when a Warden is present, he must preside, is fully recognized, it is equally as fully recognized, that in the absence of Master and Wardens, a Past Master may open the Lodge; and this provision was continued in the Constitution of that Grand Lodge for about seventy years after 1798.

"Precisely the same is found in the Pennsylvania Ahiman Rezon of 1783; in the Virginia Ahiman Rezens of 1791 and 1818; in the Kentucky Constitutions of 1818; and in the Maryland Ahiman Rezon of 1797.

"In Dalcho's (South Carolina) Ahiman Rezon of 1807, it is said, "If neither the Master or Wardens are present, the oldest Past Master present takes the Chair." This is repeated in the second edition, published in 1822.

"The same rule is recognized in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York of 1789, and those *printed* in 1801, and also *published* in 1815 and 1820:

"And in the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ohio published in 1843, 1846 and 1854.

"The precise provision in our Constitution is found in the Constitutions of Massachusetts, in all editions published up to 1866; of Ohio, in the editions of 1820 to 1854, inclusive; of Maryland, adopted in 1823; of Georgia, edi-

tions of 1856 and 1859; of Missouri, edition of 1853; and the Regulations of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, adopted in 1830, and those adopted in 1869, provide that, in the absence of the Master and both Wardens, "past officers" may call a special meeting of the Lodge.

"We would add that in Portland Lodge, nearly a hundred years ago, in the absence of the officers and Past Masters, the members put one of the oldest present into the Chair and proceeded to transact the business of the lodge—thus following the provisions of the Constitutions of 1798, and showing that those provisions were in force long before their publication.

"In 1849 the question arose in the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, whether a vacancy in the office of Master could be filled by a new election, and the committee consulted Charles W. Moore on the question, and he published an elaborate article in his Magazine (Vol. VIII, p. 225,) upon the subject. After obtaining his views, the committee reported, and the Grand Lodge decided, that in the case of a vacancy in the office of Master, no election can be held, but his place must be filled by the Warden next in rank present, or, in the absence of both, by a Past Master.

"Bro. Moore, in the article referred to, quotes the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England at that time, which provided that in case of the absence of the Master and Wardens, the immediate Past Master, or, in his absence, the Senior Past Master, shall act as Master.

"The Constitution of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, all provide that in the absence of the Master, the immediate Past Master, and in his absence, the *Senior* Past Master presides, to the exclusion of the Wardens.

"The Constitution of South Carolina of 1847, and that of Montana of 1875, expressly provide that in the absence of the Master and Wardens, a Past Master may preside.

"We have not had the opportunity of examining the early Constitutions of all the older Grand Lodges, but we think we have gone far enough to show that the old law and usage sustain the decision of our M. W. Grand Master, and that the opposite doctrine is a comparatively recent innovation."

Bro. Charles I. Collamore, of Bangor, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. Ira Berry was re-elected Grand Secretary for the twenty-fourth time.

Bro. Drummond furnishes the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and does it well, showing an enthusiastic devotion to Masonry and an intimate knowledge of Masonic law and history.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 181; number of Masons, 19,252.

MANITOBA.

Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at Winnipeg, on the 12th, 13th and 14th of June, 1878, M. W. George F. Newcomb, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master congratulates the Craft upon the harmony that prevails in the jurisdiction. He refers to an instance of noble charity to the widow and child of a member of one of the Lodges who died suddenly, and left his family penniless. A call was made for relief and a committee appointed to take charge of the fund. The committee in their report say:

"We, your committee, found that our late brother was somewhat in debt, which was materially reduced by discounts allowed by his creditors. These liabilities are all paid; also that part of the funeral expenses which did not properly belong to his mother Lodge—"Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 3."

"It was the intention of the committee to have invested the remaining funds to the best advantage for the maintenance of his son, an infant of tender years, but *his* sudden death altered this plan.

"After mature deliberation it was decided to purchase a city lot, and apply the balance of the funds towards building a small, but comfortable house, for our departed brother's widow. This has been done, and the widow is now in possession of a comfortable little home, worth from seven to eight hundred dollars, and the total amount which is still due on the same will not exceed one hundred and fifty dollars, which the widow will in a short time repay by her own exertions."

The Grand Lodge postponed the question of recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba and the Grand Lodge of New Mexico. The Grand Lodge changed the time of holding the Annual Communication from the second Wednesday of June to the second Wednesday in February.

M. W. George F. Newcomb, Grand Master, and R. W. John H. Bell, Grand Secretary, were re-elected.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 6; total number of Masons, 524.

The fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, was held at Winnipeg, February 12th, 1879, M. W. G. F. Newcomb, presiding.

The Grand Master devotes a considerable part of his address to the difficulty existing in the jurisdiction on the subject of the "ritual." The Grand Master must have had a trying time during his administration, for in his address he says: "On assuming the honorable position of Grand Master one of the first indispensable duties which met me was to change a very pernicious

custom, viz. : That of a Craft ruling a Grand Master. To such an extent had this custom prevailed that he was considered a mere "figure head," consequently an administration requiring obedience might be expected to be attended with difficulties such as met me in the discipline of the members and Lodges in this jurisdiction."

The Grand Lodge disposed of the difficulties arising from the adoption of a certain ritual by amending the regulations so as to permit of the use by each Lodge, in its discretion, of the ancient York work or the Canada work.

Samuel P. Matheson, of Winnipeg, was elected Grand Master, and John H. Bell, of Winnipeg, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We have the proceedings of the Quarterly Communication held in Boston, March 12th, 1879, and of special Communications held in the same city, April 1st and 25th, and June 11th, 1879, M. W. Charles A. Welch, presiding at all the Communications. The attention of the Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication, was directed principally to the consideration of the Masonic Temple debt. The Temple was completed in 1867, costing \$450,551.71. The receipts from Masonic Lodges, capitation tax and rental of stores and offices in the Temple had been, up to December, 1878, \$628,362.86, and expenditures on account of the Temple, in the way of interest on the debt, taxes, salaries, &c., had been, up to the same date, \$447,566.46. The present debt is about \$270,000, with interest. The committee on the financial condition of the Grand Lodge say : "The emergency confronting us is simply this: Will the Masonic fraternity of the State of Massachusetts let this Temple be sold to satisfy our debts, or will you consent to provide some means to pay the obligation?" It was recommended that the old capitation tax be continued in force for fifteen years, unless the debt is sooner liquidated.

Inasmuch as the recommendations of the Committee involved an amendment of the Grand Constitution ; the consideration of it was postponed to the Quarterly Communication in June. The Committee on the Grand Master's address indulged in the following sentiments in their report :

"Fifty years ago the dangers to Masonry were wholly from without. When men reviled and persecuted us there was no inducement for selfish, mercenary and ambitious men to knock at the doors of our Lodges. The few who presented themselves could then declare with unquestioned truthfulness that they were prompted by a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to their fellow-creatures. Not only did this fire of persecution drive away from us all recruits save good men and true, but it purified our ranks of all that was selfish and mean, timid and unmanly. What remained was pure gold.

For the last twenty-five years the current has set in the opposite direction. Masonry has been popular. So incessant has been the demand at the doors of

our Lodges that now to say that a man is a Mason is about equivalent to saying that he is a male member of the human family. As a matter of course this rush and torrent have brought many persons into the fraternity who are utterly incapable of appreciating the dignity and high importance of its aims, or of discharging the delicate duties which devolve upon them. Secret organizations, so-called, have at the same time so multiplied, and Masons have carelessly and unwisely so mingled in them, that our duties and obligations as Masons have to many of us lost their force and sacredness, and become common and every-day affairs. Our popularity bids fair to become our ruin.

"The publication in the newspapers of Masonic proceedings, and the too frequent indulgence in Masonic parades, both of which are so strongly condemned by the Grand Master, your committee believe to be generally a work of brethren who seek rather to get good than to do good by Masonry. Let us get back as speedily as possible to the good old practices of the fathers, when secrecy was most religiously observed; when brethren knew each other from meeting in the Lodge, and not from common report; and when the transactions of the Lodges were confided only to faithful breasts.

"Don't advertise your Masonry. Keep it off your sign-boards, off your business cards, out of your newspaper advertisements, off your shirt-bosoms, out of the street. Don't puff the Lodge. Don't try to advance its interests by bluster and noise. Work quietly. "Let not your right hand know what your left hand doeth." Let your life be its own advertisement. The more you try to strengthen it by calling in foreign agencies, the weaker it will become.

"If Masonry does you any good, or you do Masonry any good, that will appear in due time, without your making an effort to tell it, and the communication will be held in higher esteem by its recipients coming thus from another source. In a word, follow Charles Dickens' advice: 'Do all the good you can, and make no fuss about it.'"

At the Quarterly Communication in June, 1879, the Constitution was so amended as to provide for a capitation tax of one dollar on each affiliated Mason in Massachusetts for fifteen years, to pay the existing debt of the Grand Lodge; any member having the privilege of being relieved from the tax by paying \$10, on or before August 31st, 1880, and any Lodge being permitted to relieve all its present and future members from the tax by paying \$10 for each member belonging to the Lodge in June, 1879.

Not having received the proceedings of the Annual Communication, we cannot give the statistics of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts nor the present Grand Officers.

MICHIGAN.

Grand Lodge met at Jackson, January 28th, 1879, M. W. John W. Finch, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master gives a full and detailed report of his doings during the past Masonic year, and contains the usual amount of rhetorical flourish.

Our Michigan brethren have a system of "Schools of Instruction" for teaching Masonic work, which are under the management of the Grand Visitor and Lecturer, and which, says the Grand Master, have tended to a uniformity of work unsurpassed in any other jurisdiction." He further says in this connection:

"The pride of doing good work creates an incentive to choose good material to work upon; and although the initiations are less in number than in former years, yet this consideration is overbalanced by the degree of excellence in the character of those admitted."

The Grand Master, with a cordial approval of the noble charity, records the fact that the Lodges in his jurisdiction had responded cheerfully to the call made upon them for relief of the yellow fever sufferers in the South, the aggregate amount of the contributions being \$4,441.75. He says:

"God bless those Lodges, whose generosity, forgetting the estrangements of the past, pausing not to enquire who once wore the blue, or, who the gray, flowed out in deeds of substantial benevolence and brotherly sympathy.

"These acts of kindness, magnanimously expressed, and gratefully appreciated, have more than a common significance; and we may hope to realize therefrom an abundant fruition. The feeling of bitterness, which by reason of the unhappy events of the recent past, had rankled unappeased in the Southern heart towards the North, and the flames of discord fanned by political breezes, met their extinguishment in the overwhelming charity and sympathy of the whole country, for timely succor extended to the grief-stricken people of the South, in the hour of their extreme ordeal. Thus, "what is man's necessity is God's opportunity" for uniting the hearts of an estranged people.

"As has been remarked by a Southern statesman, "instead of harboring one feeling of malice or hatred towards a people so generous, I feel rather like standing before them with bared head and outstretched arms and gather them to my heart."

"Surely, the blessings of a grateful people descend upon us like the dew of Hermon; and in the giving and partaking our charities are doubly blest."

Among the decisions reported by the Grand Master, we note the following:

"*Question.* If, after a brother is made a Mason, he becomes an Atheist, has a Lodge the right to expel him?"

Answer. A belief in Deity is a fundamental principle of Masonry. No Atheist can be made a Mason. If after the building is erected we remove the foundation stone, the building falls. He has already ceased to be a Mason only in name, and should be expelled.

Question. A brother applies to a Lodge for the right of visitation, passes a satisfactory examination and presents a dimit as evidence of his Masonic standing; but the W. M. is in possession of evidence that the visitor at a later date has been a member of a Lodge, other than the one from which his dimit was obtained. Under those circumstances, would the Master of the Lodge he proposes to visit, be justified in admitting him?

Answer. The fact of the visitor's using the dimit after it has been cancelled by his becoming a member of another Lodge, carries the evidence of fraud with it, and he should not be admitted.

Question. A candidate petitions a Lodge for initiation, the fee for the degree accompanies the petition. The petition is received, referred and the candidate is elected, but before he takes the degree the Secretary is garnisheed for the advanced fee. What course shall he pursue?

Answer. Pay the money over to the Treasurer, the candidate having been elected, the advanced fee has become a part of the funds of the Lodge, and can only be withdrawn by a vote of the Lodge.

"Among Grand Master McCurdy's decisions is the following: "Honorary membership may be conferred by a Lodge, upon those who are members of other Lodges, but not upon its own members."

"This raises the following questions:

Question. What course should be pursued to make a brother an honorary member?

Answer. As honorary membership is an honor conferred—not sought for, the action should be voluntary on the part of the Lodge, and the subject should be introduced by motion or resolution, and the brother elected by a show of hands or a rising vote.

Question. After a brother is elected an honorary member, what special privileges is he entitled to so far as relates to the business of the Lodge?

"Does he assist to make up a constitutional quorum?

"Can he hold office either elective or appointive?

"Can he vote on any question that comes before the Lodge?

"Does that election give him any special claim to the charities of the Lodge?

Answers. (1) An honorary member has a right to a seat in the Lodge, and should be allowed to participate in debate.

"(2) His presence would not assist in making a constitutional quorum, nor (3) can he hold office either elective or appointive, save that of Tiler, or vote upon any question coming before the Lodge, nor (4) would he have any claim upon the charities of the Lodge, more than he would have been entitled to previous to his election to honorary membership."

The Grand Lodge passed resolutions recognizing the Grand Lodges of Cuba, Manitoba and New Mexico, but subsequently reconsidered them and referred them to a special committee to report at next Grand Communication.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is full and well prepared, and furnished by William P. Innes, Grand Secretary. Several pages are devoted to the review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for 1877, and the decisions of Grand Master Munson reported in full.

Daniel Striker, of Hastings, was elected Grand Master, and William P. Innes, of Grand Rapids, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 338; total membership, 25,624.

MINNESOTA.

Grand Lodge held its twenty-sixth Annual Communication at St. Paul, commencing January 14th, 1879, E. W. Durant, Grand Master, presiding. Out of one hundred and thirty-six subordinate Lodges, one hundred and twelve were represented. Of the condition of the Order in Minnesota, the Grand Master, in his address, says:

"Of the Craft at large, I would say, Freemasonry in Minnesota has been built up on a firm and enduring basis. As the foundation was secure, so has our structure been builded, the elements of wisdom and strength have been united with that symbolic beauty taught by speculative Masonry, as exemplified by the widow's son.

"Masonry in Minnesota has made wonderful progress. One hundred and forty Lodges answer at our roll call, and nearly seven thousand Masons acknowledge fealty to this Grand Lodge. As a rule, our Lodges occupy safe and comfortable, and in many instances, elegant halls, suitably fitted up and arranged, with the necessary clothing and paraphernalia of our order, governed by careful and prudent craftsmen, brethren who are zealous in well-doing, guarding carefully the portals, and with an ever-watchful eye closely scrutinizing those who would enter therein."

A Masonic Relief Association organized at St. Paul, in 1873, has paid out to beneficiaries the sum of \$112,074.98. Another has been organized at Minneapolis with good prospects of success. Of them the Grand Master says:

"As all institutions of this character are wards of the fraternity, and while the object for which they are formed appeal to the higher impulses of our nature, they are also at the same time organizations that require a careful guardianship, in order that the sacred trusts placed in their hands be so man-

aged as to secure to us all the full accomplishment of the object for which they were created."

A committee appointed to consider the action of the Grand Orient of France in abrogating the belief in the Deity, reported as follows :

"Your committee deem the subject of vital interest to our Order, and one upon which all Grand Lodges have heretofore agreed, and they are deeply pained at the action of the Grand Orient of France, being impressed with the conviction that the said action is destructive of those principles which have always been held dear to Masons everywhere, and they feel that the character of said action deserves the strongest reprobation, and that fraternal relations cannot be consistently maintained between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Orient of France.

"Your committee also deem it important that, under the existing circumstances, there should be placed on record a reiteration of certain of the cardinal principles of Freemasonry.

"A belief in Deity and in the immortality of the soul is now, and has been in all ages, and among all nations, the foundation upon which Freemasonry has builded.

"The first lesson impressed upon a candidate for Masonic honors, is his responsibility to a Supreme Being. It is not in the power of any body of men to make innovations in the fundamental principles of Freemasonry.

"In view, therefore, of these principles, and facts, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Orient of France have subverted the principles of Freemasonry, by removing the foundation stone upon which her structure is erected, thereby forfeiting all claims upon Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

"*Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota hereby decline to hold fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of France, and forbids recognition of the Masons under the obedience of the said Grand Orient of France, by the Lodges of this jurisdiction until such obedience is severed."

Bro. Henry R. Wells was elected Grand Master, and Bro. A. T. C. Pierson was re-elected Grand Secretary.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by the Grand Secretary, who is chairman of the committee, and is an able and thorough review of the condition and transactions of the Order in all the jurisdictions.

MISSISSIPPI.

Grand Lodge met at Okolona, January 15th, 1879, M. W. Charles T. Murphy, presiding.

Referring to the scourge which swept over Mississippi and other Southern States in the summer of 1878, the Grand Master in his address, says :

"The coming of the plague was so sudden—so unexpected—its death-roll so terrible—that the whole people were shocked and paralyzed. And when the piteous and urgent appeals for help poured in, the sickening reality was apparent, that, in our impoverished condition, no adequate means were at hand to meet the emergency and to relieve the sufferers. The constitutional provision giving the Grand Master control of Grand Lodge funds for certain purposes, did not provide for nor contemplate a general disbursement of them. And yet, most heartrending reports of sufferings, agonies, of hunger and unslacked thirst, among the brethren, their wives, widows and little ones, increased daily. I was sorely troubled, and in the anguish of my soul I considerably ignored the constitutional restrictions, and yielded obedience to that HIGHER and HOLIER and MORE ANCIENT LAW than any of human origin—the *instincts and dictates of common humanity*, and I wrote to Bro. Grand Secretary Power, to disburse under my *carte blanche*, every dollar in the Treasury, if necessary, above current expenses, for the relief of our brethren, their widows and children. It remains to be seen whether Grand Lodge will approve my action in the matter: be that as it may—under like circumstances I should pursue the same course.

"The appalling destitution in all infected localities, suggested extraordinary efforts to secure the means of relief. It was then that Bro. Power sent an appeal for help through the Associated Press, to the fraternity at large. About the same time Bro. Paxton, Eminent Grand Commander, sought and obtained my permission to seek foreign aid. In due time contributions began to pour in from all quarters of the continent; together with most pathetic expressions of sympathy, and assurances that more and more should come, so long as our need required it. The heart of the whole continent seemed moved in our behalf. Societies, organizations, clubs, railroad, express and telegraph companies—East and West, North and South—Grand and subordinate Lodges of Masons and Odd Fellows—all, as it were, in friendly strife to excel in their generous aid for the sufferers.

"We have embalmed these letters of condolence in tears of gratitude for the timely aid in the hour of our deep distress, and have laid them carefully away among the archives of Grand Lodge, as mementoes of the exemplification of the great truth, that true Masonry knows no North, no South, no East, no West; and "its charities are as boundless as the realms of eternity."

"An appeal was made also to the Lodges in our own jurisdiction, and many responded with marked liberality.

"I should here state that Bro. Power received and receipted for every dollar which came into my hands; and I advised all correspondents to send their contributions to him for distribution. Of these receipts and disbursements he will make a true and correct report. I was in daily correspondence with him, and was fully advised from time to time of everything done.

"When we consoled ourselves that the worst was over—well knowing that our heritage from among the orphans of our deceased brethren, would elicit most serious concern, I urged Bro. Power to lay aside \$20,000 as a sacred and special fund for their benefit. This he complied with at once, and since the disappearance of the pestilence, he has visited several of the infected towns and cities, gathering statistics of the orphanage, and distributing this reserved fund as equitably as it was possible for him to do, with the information he was able to acquire."

The Grand Secretary's report shows that the total amount received for the fever fund was \$75,472.50. At the close of his report he says:

"As your agent, in the work of relief, I have had written and said to me enough kind things to satisfy the ambition of almost any man for the good will of his fellows. The moistened eye, the falling tear, the hearty "God bless you!" and God bless the Masons and Odd Fellows!" have strengthened and encouraged me in the prosecution of the work, and have filled me with gratitude for the privilege of being the almoner of the bounties of others. Onerous as has been the duty, I shall regret when it is out of my power to say to the widow or orphan who may apply, *I have no more to give*. To Him who has declared "I will be a husband to the widow and a father to the fatherless," I do most prayerfully commend the bereaved of the epidemic of 1878.

"In closing this report, I desire to return grateful acknowledgment to the railroads, express and telegraph companies, the banks and the public press for zealous co-operation. To the Capital State Bank, at Jackson, I am specially indebted for the facilities afforded in the work of relief. This bank kept open daily, supplying me with currency as needed, and cashing drafts to the amount of sixty thousand dollars, without discount or exchange, in a single instance."

Our Mississippi brethren contribute liberally to an orphan asylum at Natchez. In his report the Grand Secretary says:

"Brethren, I again commend to your generous consideration *our* asylum at Natchez. For more than sixty years it has afforded food, shelter and education for the homeless waifs of the dead and destitute, and contributing to society some of its best and most useful members. Now, more than ever, does the necessity exist of reaching towards it your warm hearts and liberal hands. If there is a Masonic orphan within the jurisdiction of any of your Lodges that cannot be otherwise provided for, send it to our brethren in Natchez, and it is assured a home and friends. May our Heavenly Father bless them for what

they have done, and encourage them in the noble and glorious trust committed to their care."

On January 15th, 1879, a Lodge of Sorrow was held in memory of the noble dead who gave their lives in nursing and caring for the sick and dying during the prevalence of the yellow fever. Interesting addresses were delivered by several brethren.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was furnished by Bro. J. M. Howry for the Committee, and consists of 102 pages. It is an able and thorough review of the workings of Masonry in all the jurisdictions.

Bro. Frank Burkitt, of Okolona, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. J. L. Power, of Jackson, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 308; total number of Masons, 8,926.

MISSOURI.

The fifty-eighth Annual Communication was held in the city of St. Louis, October 15th to 17th, 1878, M. W. Thomas C. Ready, Grand Master, presiding. One hundred and sixty-two Lodges represented.

The address of the Grand Master is quite lengthy, and contains much of interest to the general Craft.

The following interesting items are given :

"A retrospect of the past fifty-seven years of the history of the Grand Lodge in Missouri, presents facts and incidents full of interest to the good Mason.

"What a bright record do these years of labor present, and how full of encouragement to us is the success which has crowned the patient, earnest and faithful labor performed by our distinguished brethren and fathers of Missouri Masonry !

"In April, 1821, the Grand Lodge was organized by the union of but three subordinate Lodges, with an aggregate membership of scarce one hundred.

"The city of St. Louis contained about 5,000 inhabitants; the country beyond was almost a wilderness—but sparsely settled; the material from which to draw additions to her membership was limited.

"But the bold, daring, earnest men who had inaugurated this new enterprise, faltered not, nor suffered themselves to be discouraged. They trusted in the Supreme Architect to guide them in the path of right, and to preserve and build up their Mystic Temple. "Their trust being in God, their faith was well founded."

"The State had just passed the barrier of State and Territorial government, and had just been admitted into the Union.

"The news of her rich and fertile lands and salubrious climate reached the inhabitants of the land east of the Mississippi, and soon emigrants from all the Southern and Middle States came flocking in and scattering over her beautiful prairies, and among her grand timbered lands, and quickly transformed the wilderness into well-cultivated fields, teeming with rich products.

"Towns were located, merchandise was imported, tradesmen opened busy workshops. Temples of justice were built, soon followed by churches, and anon, beside these, earnest, zealous and true men erected altars dedicated to virtue and to Masonry; and the success of the inauguration of a distinct Grand Lodge organization was assured.

"Year after year, Lodges were added to the number on the Registry, until, to-day the three Lodges of 1821, with one hundred members, have increased to 500 Lodges, with an aggregate membership of 24,000."

Appropriate references are made to the deaths of several of the most respected and honored members of the Order, among which we notice an announcement as to one who was widely known and loved in North Carolina, and whose death was generally lamented.

"ENOCH M. MARVIN.

"This eminently good and great man, after a life of consecration to the church and to the cause of Brotherly Love and Truth, has gone to his reward.

"As Bishop of the M. E. Church South, he, during the years 1876 and 1877, made the tour of the world in the interest of the church, and returned to his family and friends to enjoy their companionship for a short season and then to die.

"Bro. Marvin filled the position of Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Missouri for many years.

"*Requiescat in pace.*"

The actions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and Grand Orient of France receive the just condemnation of the Grand Master, whose remarks on these subjects give expression to the position of the entire brotherhood.

The Grand Master reports a large number of decisions, some of which we give:

"A, B and C, members of the same Lodge, are severally charged with gross unmasonic conduct, and the trial of each is fixed for the same evening.

"The specifications in case of A and B are alike, but those in the case of C are somewhat different. The charge, however, is all being based upon the same general facts.

"Should the trial of A and B occur before that of C; can C remain in the Lodge room during the ballot upon punishment and be permitted to vote upon the guilt or innocence of A and B?

Decision.—The charge in all three cases being based upon the same general facts, and the result affecting all alike, C cannot remain in the Lodge room during the ballot upon punishment, nor can he be permitted to vote as to the guilt or innocence of A or B.

Question.—If a member of a Lodge whose charter has been arrested by the Grand Master, dies before the case has been reviewed by the Grand Lodge, can he be buried with Masonic honors?

Decision.—He is a Master Mason in good standing. His Masonic privileges, as also those of his Lodge, being simply held in abeyance, not destroyed. He is, therefore, entitled to Masonic burial.

“His Lodge, however, being without authority to perform such service, the nearest Lodge must, by permission of the Grand Master, convene and perform the funeral services.

“The relation of honorary membership to a Lodge is not recognized by the Grand Lodge.

“A Lodge cannot open either in regular or called meetings with less than seven members of the Lodge present.

“To open a Lodge requires a quorum; therefore, seven being the number constituting a quorum, a less number will not suffice.”

The Grand Secretary, Bro. John D. Vincil, prepared the report on Foreign Correspondence, which is a production worthy of its able author. He reviews each Grand Lodge carefully, and fraternally, including North Carolina for 1877. He says as to the address of Grand Master Munson that it “opens prettily, proceeds smoothly, and ends in good time.”

He compliments the style of our proceedings and takes occasion to make a very pleasant allusion to our Grand Secretary, both personally and as to his work, which, we know, is properly appreciated by that officer as well as the brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction. He says:

“We like the style of the proceedings, work and matter—all reminding us of the young, pleasant, unassuming and elegant Grand Secretary, R. W. D. W. Bain. If all Grand Secretaries are as agreeable and good men as the few we have met, Bro. Bain included, we shall not fear the grand army of scribblers as much as we expected. One of the pleasant incidents of our public life, was to meet and make the acquaintance of R. W. Bro. Bain.”

Bro. Vincil thus alludes to our orphan work, and we commend the sentiments to our brethren whose hands and hearts are ever ready to respond to calls for the orphans' care:

“Our brethren live, and labor, and pay, in the pleasing hope that when they shall sleep in dreamless quiet beneath the green turf, their loved ones will be remembered and not *neglected*, should necessity demand a brother's aid. But how is it? Our fallen ones pass away, and with their disappearance from life's activities, are forgotten. Like one suddenly whelmed in the yielding waters,

sinking from view, the current flows on, the place is lost to sight, and the buried is remembered no more. The survivors, for whom pain was joy and toil was sweet to the husband and father, are left alone to face the cold selfishness of a heartless world, or struggle amid the surf and surge of life's stormy sea. How many hands are opened to help, aid and assist such, in time of need? How many will fly to the relief of these wards of Masonry to extricate them from the unfriendliness of the world? But few are beneficiaries of that charity that "is kind." Is our charity only a *name*? Are our professions high sounding terms? May we not obtain the approbation of men and the applause of superficial observers, under "*false pretenses*?" The world looks on with wonder at our exhibitions and displays, and well may ask, "where is the good?" What can we answer? We would point to the widows and orphans made happy, relieved and housed in some blessed sanctuary, like Kentucky's "Home," or the ASYLUM of North Carolina. We would see smiles of joy break over sorrow-darkened faces, brightening tears into rainbow hues, and hear voices of gladness in gushing melodies from those who *feel that Masonry means something*. Such results would be more to our glory than all the display of a century. The smiles of such hearts, throbbing with benedictions; voices, vocal with praise and gratitude, will tell what we have *done* rather than what we *profess*."

Bro. Noah M. Givan, of Harrisonville, was elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary was re-elected.

The annual oration by Bro. Oren Root, Jr., is an eloquent tribute to Free Masonry, closing with the following sentiment:

"Man, free, complete and pure, earnest, trusty and loving, seeking the light, searching for the truth, is the Mason; and humanity, under God, for God and humanity, makes our brotherhood. This underlies our civilization; this is the basis and end of our law; this, the spirit and purpose of our government; this—thank God—the sweet savor of our religion. With them all our Craft is thus linked; and for them all, for civilization and law and government and religion, Masonry, by the will of Him who sendeth, is working out her social mission."

STATISTICS.

Lodges at work, 496; raised, 860; admitted, 765; dimitted, 856; died, 256; membership, 24,296; amount of annual dues, about \$12,000.

NEBRASKA.

Grand Lodge held its twenty-second Annual Communication at Lincoln, commencing June 24th, 1879. In the absence of the Grand Master, E. K. Valentine, the Deputy Grand Master, J. A. Tulleys, presided. The Grand Master's address was read to the Grand Lodge, and is a plain and unvarnished statement of the official acts performed by him during the year. He records the death of Past Grand Master Frank Welch, who died at Neligh, Nebraska, on 4th of September, 1878.

The Grand Master having been called to an official station in Nebraska, the Deputy Grand Master (Bro. Tulleys) took charge of affairs in the jurisdiction on the 5th February, 1879, and made a report of his official acts to the Grand Lodge. He records several decisions, all of which are good Masonic law.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows receipts for the year \$3,688.89. A balance of \$711 was reported due by the Grand Treasurer, and, as he stated, was to his credit in a banking house when the latter failed. The matter seemed unsatisfactory to the special committee to whom it was referred, and suit was ordered to be brought to recover the amount from the bondsmen of the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Orator, Bro. George B. France, delivered an excellent address, which closed as follows :

"In fine, since the most illustrious characters that have adorned our race in all ages have been struck with the beauty and magnificence of Masonry, and have devoted a certain portion of their time and attention in investigating its admirable adaptation to the wants of the human family, there can be no question that a portion of our time and thought devoted to the study of its wondrous and magnificent work, must ultimately be conducive to the improvement of our intellectual powers, and to our advancement both socially and morally, and to our preparation for the exalted employment of the eternal world. Since the researches of modern times have greatly enlarged our views of the system of Masonry, and of the vast extent to which its operations are carried on in every part of the terrestrial globe ; since the study of its constitution, its principles and its magnetic influence all over the terrestrial habitation has opened to our view the bright display of its wisdom, its beauty and its strength ; since this science itself has kept pace with the improvements in the useful arts, and has been applied to many beneficial purposes which have a great bearing on the interests and progress of the world ; since the general desire and aim of the Order is to propagate truth, and thereby make its votaries better and wiser, it seeks to burst asunder the shackles of despotism, and to inquire after rational liberty and mental improvement ; since it seeks to energize the mind and circumscribe the desires of man, and keep these desires within due bounds with all mankind, we ought to consider it a part and parcel of those Providential arrangements the progress of which will ultimately accomplish the illumination of our benighted race, and cause righteousness, truth, honor and happi-

ness to triumph among all nations. Yes, we ought thankfully to appreciate every exhibition, every discovery, every conception of its attributes and principles, in order to direct and enlarge the grandeur of its work, and to qualify ourselves to speak in honor of our Order, to talk of its power, and to make known to the sons of men its mighty acts. Let the antique, elegant and symmetrical Masonic temple contain not one atheist, not one infidel, not one intemperate, not one unmanly, not one ungodly, not one inconsistent, not one ignoble element, plank or stone in all its structure; but, on the other hand, let it be composed of moral granite, beams and planks; of those who believe in one Supreme Moral Builder and Ruler of all things animate and inanimate, who ground their faith in the divinity of the Holy Scriptures, who have settled convictions of a future state, who acknowledge that the moral code is the rule by which all human action shall be tested. Men will die and pass away, the nations of the earth will cease, the granite will crumble to dust, the moon may wax pale and reflect no more silvery beams, and the king of day may be plucked from his place in the heavens, but the truth and principles contained in the Masonic institution, and symbolized in the level, square and compasses will live and operate when the crank of Time will cease to move."

A Lodge of Sorrow was held during the sitting of the Grand Lodge, to do honor to the memory of Past Grand Master Welch, deceased. A number of Past Grand Masters were present, and took part in the exercises. Bro. R. C. Jordan opened the Lodge with an address, in the course of which he said:

"It is within a few weeks of twenty-two years since the Grand Lodge of Nebraska was organized. During those years to the present time, thirteen different brethren have been honored by the Grand Lodge as its presiding officer. By a singular and unusual ordering of Divine Providence, up to within a year past, these were all alive and residents of this State.

"Two years ago our Venerable Grand Orator (who will address you this evening) conceived the happy idea of having all the Past Grand Masters meet at Omaha during the session of the Grand Lodge, and form an association, to be called the "Past Grand Masters' Association of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Free and Accepted Masons," its object being to keep alive an interest with each member in the affairs of the Craft and preserve the recollections and pleasant memories of bygone years of active service in the Order. He proceeded to act at once in the matter, and by personal effort succeeded in securing the presence of nearly all the Past Grand Masters at the session of the Grand Lodge held at Omaha, in June, 1877.

"The organization was perfected at that session, and among the several matters determined upon was this: that in case of the death of one of the members, the survivors would, at some convenient time, hold a Lodge of Sorrow, in memory of his life and labors in the fraternity. In accordance with this determination, and for this purpose, we have met this evening. Since our last

annual meeting the tyrant Death has invaded our ranks and made captive one of our small number.

"At the time the association was organized it was not expected that many more years would elapse before we would be called upon to perform the sad offices of the Ritual of a Lodge of Sorrow."

The Grand Orator, R. W. Furnas, delivered an interesting eulogy on the life and character of the deceased, which is published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. The following extract is taken from the address:

"Bro. Welch had held numerous prominent and honorable political positions in the Territory and State of Nebraska. He was postmaster while at Decatur; was a member of the Legislature during our territorial existence; was also member and President of the Senate in 1866. In 1871 he was appointed register of the United States Land Office in this State, and removed from Decatur to West Point, where the office was then located. When the office was removed to Norfolk, he again changed his residence to that place, which continued until his death. He held the position in the land office until 1876, when he was elected member of Congress from this State, which office he held at the time of his death.

"Not in the history of our Order in this jurisdiction, or that of this State, has a more startling message flashed over electric wires, or passed from lips to lips, as that of September 4, 1878: "FRANK WELCH IS DEAD." He died suddenly on that day of a paralytic stroke, at Neligh, in this State; died in his chair, away from home and his family! While surrounded by friends, no wife or relatives were near to cheer the passage into that undiscovered bourne from which none return! During the session of this Grand Lodge at Omaha, two years ago, Bro. Welch, it will be remembered, received a warning stroke, which so afflicted him that he never fully recovered from it. When he returned home from Washington last, there was a marked change in his every appearance, to such an extent as to create great anxiety on the part of intimate friends. He thought rest and the pure air, peculiar to our region, would restore to him vigor. But alas! the lightning stroke again descended, and this time consumed! Suddenly—in a moment the grim monster stalks forth, as it were—has come!—has passed!—is gone! Who next!

"We know that moons shall wane,
And summer birds from far shall cross the sea;
But who shall tell us when to meet with death?"

Bro. Rolland H. Oakley, of Lincoln, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. William R. Bowen was re-elected Grand Secretary.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 77; number of Masons, 3,257.

NEVADA.

Grand Lodge held its fifteenth Annual Communication in Virginia City, commencing 10th June, 1879, M. W. Henry L. Fish, Grand Master, presiding. Eighteen out of twenty-one subordinate Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master's address is able and polished, and reviews succinctly the operations of Masonry in his own jurisdiction as well as at large. It records the gratifying fact that during the preceding year no present or Past Grand Officer in the jurisdiction has died, but that "their valuable presence, ripe experience and good counsels remain with us." In noting the appointment of a representative of a sister Grand Lodge "near the Grand Lodge of Nevada," he says:

"Since the general adoption of Grand Lodge representation, the question is frequently asked, What are the duties of a Grand Representative? I am not aware that these have ever been by any jurisdiction particularly defined. I should consider them to be, generally, as follows: To become especially conversant with the constitution, by-laws, and regulations of the Grand Lodge he represents, for the information of that to which he is accredited; to attend all Communications of the Grand Lodge in the jurisdiction of which he may reside, acting as counsel for that which he represents on all questions which may arise, jurisdictional or otherwise; to distribute statistical or other official documents issued from the Grand Lodge he represents; to receive and introduce brethren of the same; and to strive to cultivate a correct understanding, a firm friendship and unity of thought and purpose among the respective Grand Lodges."

And again:

"Our relations with the respective Grand Lodges of the United States are most cordial, and the general adoption of the Grand Representative system has, I think, awakened new interest among Masons, promoting a comparison of methods, an interchange of ideas and of fraternal greetings between the most distant though direct personal agencies."

We make the following excellent extracts from the really excellent address of the Grand Master:

"We should secure if possible uniformity of work throughout the jurisdiction. Without this, the working of the respective Lodges is attended by many evils which other Grand Lodges have met in a proper spirit and overcome. If this can be accomplished by harmonious action the effect will necessarily be very salutary, but if likely to occasion ill-feeling or discord should not be attempted. For however beautiful uniformity in our rituals may be, however perfect our system of forms and symbols, they are valuable only as they represent the Masonic virtues and embellish and adorn Masonic principles. Let us with true wisdom hold fast to the practical and real, wherein

lies the strength of our superstructure, while adding all that can beautify without proving an element of weakness. The prosperity of the fraternity depends not so much upon the numbers as the general character and moral standing of those who march beneath its banners. Guard well the portals of your Lodges against unsuitable material. Scrutinize closely the mental qualifications of the candidate. If he is addicted to the vices which by our regulations are defined as Masonic offenses, if he is morose, ill-tempered, selfishly ambitious or unable to brook reasonable authority, allow none such to enter; for the acceptance of one unruly member may prove more detrimental to the interests of the Lodge than the unwise rejection of many good men who as members would honor it.

"Our institution needs no other eulogy than the simplest recital of its history. Springing into existence through the yearnings of man's better nature to pierce the mysteries and revel in the delights of a higher existence, it ever prompted them to purest thought and action; and in the "dark ages," when ignorance, depravity and superstition held high carnival, it shone throughout the dreary years a beacon light of hope and promise and led the way to virtue and enlightenment. It has steadily progressed in the past, not through support of the rich and powerful, but as founded upon the eternal principles of the moral law. It progresses in the present, because its impressive lessons meet a hearty response from human hearts. It will progress in the future so long as the promptings of man's spiritual being tend to a higher plane of thought and life. It will decline when "belief in the immortality of the soul" and "charity to all mankind" cease to be landmarks; when temperance, benevolence and brotherly affection cease to be virtues, and when justice, love and truth are no longer cherished as attributes of true manhood."

Bro. Robert H. Taylor made a report for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which is printed with the proceedings, and covers one hundred and fifty-five pages. It is an instructive and well prepared review of the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges in correspondence with that of Nevada. Bro. Taylor in his conclusion, says:

"The work (of the committee) has been arduous; but we do not say this complainingly, for, although it has occupied months of our time, we have found it a pleasant, as well as a laborious occupation. We hope our brethren in Nevada will read this report, attentively and carefully. The wisest have always something to learn; and in the preceding pages may be found much instruction, which we have appropriated from, without diminishing, the common stock. There will also be found some things amusing, and some which ought to enlarge the sympathies of even the best of men. Read, for instance, under Kentucky, in relation to the "Home," that noble work which attests the zeal, the perseverance and the large humanity of our noble Kentucky brethren. Read of what was done by Masons elsewhere, to relieve the sufferers by that

dread scourge, the yellow fever. And then, thank God for the large hearts that beat among us."

He thus advises Grand Masters in the matter of reporting their decisions :

"We would like to say a word or two to Grand Masters. In rendering and reporting decisions on Masonic jurisprudence, it would be well to frame them so as to avoid the jumble of question and answer, and the statement of the names of parties and of Lodges. State the facts, if you please, and then put the *decision* in abstract terms, so that it may be readily referred to as a precedent, and you will find that your decisions will be more satisfactory to those who ask for them, and also to yourselves."

Bro. Taylor also appends to his report, a digest of decisions upon Masonic jurisprudence, compiled from the proceedings reviewed by the committee. It is a valuable work and evinces that much care and labor were bestowed upon it.

The Grand Secretary (Bro. J. D. Hammond) in his report says :

"I have received the current proceedings of nearly all of the Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge is in correspondence. I have made special effort to get the earlier proceedings of the various Grand Lodges, but thus far without much success, except in the way of promises. I wish again to call the attention of Grand Secretaries, and others who may read this report, to the fact that the library of the Grand Lodge of Nevada was entirely destroyed by fire in 1875, and that we are, therefore, almost destitute of early proceedings of the various Masonic Grand bodies."

From the report of the Grand Treasurer we find that the receipts of the Grand Lodge during the past year, including former balance, were \$8,226.04, and disbursements \$3,748.72.

During the session of the Grand Lodge there was a special order for the reception of Grand Representatives of sister Grand Lodges, who were received with the private Grand Honors. Addresses of welcome and response thereto were delivered, and the occasion was a very agreeable feature of the proceedings.

Bro. Trenmor Coffin, Grand Orator, delivered an excellent and instructive address, from which the making of extracts is only prevented by our lack of space to print them.

Bro. DeWitt C. McKenney, of Austin, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. John D. Hammond was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 21 ; initiated, 50 ; passed, 54 ; raised, 53 ; total number Master Masons, 1,476.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick held its eleventh Annual Communication in Saint John, commencing 25th September, 1878, Robert T. Clinch, Grand Master, presiding.

In his address the Grand Master referred to the destruction of the city of St. John, by fire in 1877, and the generous aid and sympathy which had been received from sister jurisdictions. He also referred feelingly to the distress which was then prevailing in the Southern States of America, and exhorted the Masons in his jurisdiction to respond liberally to the cry of distress from that section.

A company called the "New Brunswick Masonic Hall Company," had commenced the erection of an elegant building in St. John, in every way suited to the wants of the Craft, and at a special communication called for the purpose and in the presence of a large concourse of people, the Grand Master, on the 1st of July, 1878, laid the corner-stone of the building.

The report of the Grand Secretary (Bro. William F. Bunting) shows the receipts for the year to have been \$2,188.26. Every Lodge in the jurisdiction made returns and payments complete. The report says:

"From reports received during the year, the Grand Secretary feels pleasure in stating that the private Lodges throughout the jurisdiction are in a sound and flourishing condition, while no discordant elements appear to disturb the harmony which should ever be the characteristic of our institution. The Masters and Secretaries seem to be alive to the important interests committed to their keeping, and are generally prompt and punctual in their correspondence and dealings with his office."

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, changing the time of meeting of the Grand Lodge from 4th Wednesday in September to the last Wednesday in April, in each year; and, according to a resolution, the proceedings of the Communication of 1878, were not printed until after the Communication of April, 1879.

Bro. Robert Marshall was elected Grand Master, and Bro. W. F. Bunting was re-appointed Grand Secretary.

The twelfth Annual Communication was held in Saint John, commencing April 30th, 1879, Robert Marshall, Grand Master, presiding. Twenty-four out of thirty-three subordinate Lodges were represented.

In his address the Grand Master refers to the death of Past Grand Master Robert Gowan, who died in the city of Fredericton, on the 30th of July, 1879, at the age of seventy-six, and among other matters of eulogy, says of him:

"Long before there was a central authority of any kind in the province, Bro. Gowen's views and opinions had all the force of authority, and what he thought of any particular matter largely influenced the decision upon that matter. A diligent student and strong in his own individuality, he never failed to have a decided view upon every question that came before him, and to any courteously expressed application for information or instruction, he never failed to cheerfully respond. Social, kind, charitable and genial, honorable in all his dealings, the good that he did will live after him and the remembrance of his many virtues will long linger in Grand Lodge."

The Grand Secretary reports full returns and payments from all subordinate Lodges in the jurisdiction. He gives the statistics of the Order in New Brunswick, from which it appears that since 1868 the membership has increased from 1,312 to 2,317.

The report of the General Masonic Board of Relief, organized in 1877, in behalf of sufferers by the disastrous fire in Saint John, shows that \$8,431.35 had been received and disbursed.

The Constitution was again amended, changing the time of holding the Annual Communication from the last Wednesday to the fourth Tuesday in April.

The committee appointed to consider the conflicting claims of the Grand Lodge of Colon and the Grand Lodge of Cuba to recognition, after stating the differences between the two organizations, was unable to come to a conclusion as to where the right was, recommended an adjustment of the difficulties, and asked leave to be discharged from further consideration of the subject.

M. W. Robert Marshall, Grand Master, was re-elected, and Bro. Bunting re-appointed Grand Secretary.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 33; number of Masons, 2,317.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Grand Lodge held its ninetieth Annual Communication in Concord, commencing May 21st, 1879, M. W. Solon A. Carter, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master's address relates chiefly to local and routine matters. He says in regard to the condition of Masonry in New Hampshire:

"I am pleased to be able to report that nothing has occurred during the year to disturb the peace and harmony which has for so long characterized our jurisdiction.

"The occasions have been rare when even the advice or decisions of the Grand Master have been called into requisition in the settlement of questions

pending before particular Lodges, and from the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters which are submitted herewith, I learn that the Lodges generally are in a very satisfactory condition."

Among the decisions reported is the following:

"Can charges against a brother for a Masonic offense be withdrawn at any time before trial? I replied that I could hardly conceive a case where such a course would be proper. If a brother is liable to charges for a Masonic offense, it is the duty of the Lodge to prosecute. If on the other hand a brother is unjustly accused, he has the right to demand a trial and acquittal.

"There might be special cases where by unanimous consent of the Lodge and the accused, charges might be withdrawn.

"This ruling not to be applied to charges for non-payment of dues, in which case payment of the sum claimed or remission by the Lodge operates as a dismissal of the charge."

The District Deputies made full and detailed reports, which represent the subordinate Lodges to be in a flourishing state.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Bro. A. S. Wait. It is an excellent document, and covers 119 pages. The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina were not received, and hence, not reviewed.

M. W. Solon A. Carter was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. George P. Cleaves was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 93; number of Masons, 7,321; increase over 1878, 43.

NEW JERSEY.

A special communication was held at Freehold, Monmouth county, June 28th, 1878, the one hundredth anniversary of the battle of Monmouth, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of the battle monument. M. W. Marshall B. Smith, Grand Master, presided.

An appropriate prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. Bro. Nathaniel Pettit.

The corner-stone was laid with interesting ceremonies.

The address of the Grand Master contains the following:

"Especially as Masons have we a right to honor this day and its associations. Our institution, planted on the soil of New Jersey in 1730, has for nearly one hundred and fifty years, embraced within its number great and brave and good men of this Commonwealth. Every General (so far as known) in the historic

battle at Monmouth Court House was a Craftsman tried and true ; one of them was afterward Governor of New Jersey and Grand Master of Masons, and two others were also Grand Masters of New Jersey. Of the twenty-seven Governors New Jersey has had, fourteen have been or are members of our fraternity, and seven of them, beginning with Governor Richard Howell, active officers or members of our Grand Lodge.

* * * * *

" Amid the booming of artillery, the measured tread of soldiery, and the gathering host of historic associations, we of the great Masonic Brotherhood can hear the voice of the God who rules in the camp as by the fireside, in the State as in the family, proclaiming "Peace on earth ;" and even at this hour, on this old historic battle-field, we look forward joyously to the day

" ' When forever
War's dread banners shall be furled,
And the angel Peace be welcomed
As Regent of the world.' "

To this patriotic sentiment we respond, So mote it be.

The ninety-second Annual Communication was held in the city of Trenton, January 22nd and 23rd, 1879. The Grand Master presiding, with the veteran Grand Secretary, Bro. Joseph H. Hough, at his post. One hundred and thirty-two Lodges represented.

The Grand Master delivered an interesting address. He evidently labored to subserve the interests of the Order in his jurisdiction, which the Grand Lodge appreciated by three successive elections.

The following are some of his decisions :

" A Grand Master has no power, in this jurisdiction, to heal or authorize a Lodge to advance a person who has received any of the three Symbolic Degrees in violation of an Ancient Landmark. Degrees thus received are, of necessity, null and void.

" A Lodge *quorum*, in New Jersey, is a number equal to that required to obtain or retain a Lodge Warrant."

From the reports of the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, and the several District Deputy Grand Masters, it appears that the interests of the Lodges were well looked after. This accounts for the prosperity of the jurisdiction.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Bro. James A. Norton, and is a courteous and interesting review of the several jurisdictions, North Carolina for 1877 included.

STATISTICS.

Affiliated, 192 ; raised, 468 ; members, 12,084.

NEW YORK.

Grand Lodge met in the city of New York, in its ninety-eighth Annual Communication, on June 3d, 1879, M. W. Edmund L. Judson, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master, in forcible and business-like language reviews his work for the past year, refers to several questions of local interest that engage the attention of Masons in New York, and records and laments the death of several prominent and revered members of the Order. In alluding to the decrease of membership in the jurisdiction, he well says :

"It will be found from an examination of the reports of the District Deputies, that the falling off in our membership during the past year is largely due to striking from the roll for the non-payment of dues. It is, of course, impossible that the Deputies should know the facts in each case, but may it not be that many brethren unable to pay, and perhaps too proud to acknowledge the fact, have been among the number thus unaffiliated? and is it not an act of unkindness, to say nothing of the ties that bind us together, to use this measure—clearly within the powers of a Lodge—without the closest scrutiny, and so far as may be, the most absolute certainty, that when the law is executed, we are not doing a wrong, alike to the brother disciplined, to the Lodge and to the spirit of Masonry.

"My own experience convinces me that there are many cases of neglect on the part of individuals who can pay as well as not, but it may be suggested at the same time, that an indiscriminate application of the law may and does work injustice.

"It is a familiar fact to most of us, that during the years through which we have just passed, many of our brethren have been the victims of misfortune, and while some have succumbed, others, and I believe the larger number, concealing perhaps a heavy burden, have with manly courage pressed on in the fight to preserve their credit and good name. In this emergency the sympathy of those to whom they are bound by the mystic tie, in an especial manner, nerves and sustains them in their fearful trial, and this they should have in the fullest measure. The imposition of a penalty in such cases is unjust. It were better that those of us who escape this trial should be taxed a trifle beyond the average amount, rather than at our hands an injustice should be done to the humblest of our brethren struggling in the battle of life. Let me be understood as not making any positive assertion, but only as suggestion, that in the large number subjected to discipline there may have been many cases of brethren, who, had their circumstances been known, would have been excepted from exclusion, and this leads me to the suggestion that in our relations to each other as members of Lodges, or of the Craft, we fall in many instances to cultivate that near friendship and regard for each other that ought to especially distinguish us. Masonry, my brethren, is neither a life nor health association ;

it does not hold forth any pecuniary inducements to its initiates, but when a man has been admitted to our intimacy as a Fraternity he should be a BROTHER indeed, and the ties that bind us together should only be severed when we find on the part of the individual a remissness which justice to the Lodge, to the Craft and to ourselves, will not allow us to overlook.

"You will of course understand that on this subject no legislation is proposed; the appeal is to a higher and better feeling than is generally contained in a mere resolution or standing regulation, and I venture to believe that when under the influence of Masonic principle you give your attention to this subject the cases of injustice will be rare indeed."

In reference to some proposed amendments to the Constitution, he says:

"As the result of my examination of the proposed amendments, I am constrained to recommend their rejection; and let me say further, that the prevailing tendency to offer crude and ill-digested amendments to the law is one more to be honored in the breach than the observance. If adopted, they require a new edition of the Constitution every year, and what is infinitely worse, they leave the great mass of the brethren uncertain as to the law and lead them sometimes into serious errors, because they may have inadvertently consulted the wrong edition. No worse evil can come upon a nation, community, or association than uncertainty of the law; and, of all associations, this of ours, with fixed, immutable principles, ought to be the least subject to the difficulties arising from merely experimental legislation."

The Grand Secretary's report shows that the receipts from all sources during the year ending April 30th, 1879, were \$91,105.75. Bro. Austin, the Grand Secretary, thus records a pleasant respite from the arduous duties of his office:

"I cannot permit the present occasion to pass without allusion to a subject which, though personal to myself, seems to me not unworthy of mention at this time and place.

"During the summer of the past year, through the kindness of many of my warm personal friends, and at the request of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, I was enabled to enjoy a brief visit to Europe; and thus for the first time within many years, to temporarily possess entire freedom from the duties of my office.

"While abroad, I had the happiness to meet many distinguished representatives of Masonry in the old world, and was rejoiced to learn from them the high regard and fraternal esteem which they bear toward this Grand body and the Craft of this jurisdiction.

"It afforded me equal pleasure to express to them in return, the warm feeling of brotherly love entertained by the members of this Grand Lodge for our brother Masons, in however distant lands dispersed.

"After a short absence, I was permitted to return to my home and to the discharge of my duties, invigorated by my vacation, and bringing, I trust, new capabilities to serve my brethren.

"For their kindness in thus enabling me to realize a long cherished desire, and for the many acts of loving regard of which I have been the recipient during my many years of official connection with this Grand Lodge, I now desire to express to my brethren my warm, sincere, and hearty thanks."

Our New York brethren have built a Masonic Temple, the total cost of which was \$1,590,262, and the indebtedness, which amounts to \$705,088, is giving them some anxiety and trouble, but the committee appointed to consider the status of the debt and the prospects of paying it, seem to be hopeful that ere many years elapse the "flag of the Grand Lodge will float over the Temple free from debt and its revenues devoted to the care of worthy, distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans."

The following resolutions recommended by the Committee on Jurisprudence were adopted :

"Resolved, That the Master of a Lodge, after assembling the Craft, may authorize any qualified brother to open his Lodge in his presence, under the same restrictions and regulations as he might permit the performance of any other portion of the Lodge-work by such brother.

"Resolved, That we fraternally hail and fully recognize the right of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico to be admitted into the circle of the Grand Lodges of the world as a sovereign and independent Grand Lodge, wishing for it now, and in all future time, peace and prosperity.

"Resolved, That we in like manner hail and recognize the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, with like cordial kind wishes and salutations ; but from considerations connected with the civil government of the Territory, we forbear expressing any opinion as to the extent of its territorial jurisdiction.

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge not only does not recognize, but forbids the use of any written or printed ritual of Work and Lectures, under such Masonic penalty as may be inflicted for the violation of an obligation.

"Resolved, That the fees paid by a candidate at initiation, are paid for being "made a Mason;" there being no pecuniary fee or reward given for conferring the second and third degrees, which are conferred as honorariums."

M. W. Charles Roome was elected Grand Master, and James M. Austin was re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of which Bro. John W. Simons is Chairman, made an elaborate and excellent report. In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, the committee refers with commendation to our Orphan Asylum at Oxford, and concludes as follows :

"A stirring appeal is made for the work of the Oxford Orphan Asylum. The report of the committee on this subject is very elaborate, and we are glad

to have it in the Grand Lodge library when the time comes for us to profit by the experience of these brethren and the results of their work."

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 717 ; number of Masons, 75,086.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, was held in Halifax, commencing 5th day of June, 1878, M. W. J. W. Laurie, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master is an able and business-like document. The following excellent passage we quote concerning the Grand Orient of France:

"It is with extreme regret that we have learned that the Grand Orient of France, the supreme body ruling over Freemasonry in England's old enemy, but now warm friend and trusted ally, France, has altered its Constitution, and omitted therefrom the first fundamental principle of Freemasonry—the belief in a great First Cause—a Personal God. According to the light to which we have been admitted, this change strikes at the root of Freemasonry as recognized by us. We may have differed with our brethren of the Grand Orient on questions of jurisdiction or other, by comparison, minor matters; it may have been necessary on account of our claims to exclusive territorial jurisdiction to decline to continue fraternal relations with them, whilst they continued to ignore what we believe to be our just rights; but although not in Masonic intercourse with our brethren of France, we still recognized that they were Masons; but now that as a body, and by the voice of their supreme council, they have officially announced their departure from one of the most ancient landmarks of our Order, in fact *the* most ancient, but one course remains for us to pursue: it is firmly and decidedly, although sorrowfully, to regard them as those who have gone out from amongst us, who have part or lot with us, as a body of men, but no longer as a body of Freemasons; in this we shall be acting in accord with our sister Grand Lodges in the old country and in harmony with the action which I feel assured, must be taken by our fellow Masons on this continent when their Grand Lodges assemble.

"To us who pride ourselves on our open Bible, who humbly recognize our entire dependence on the Great Architect of the Universe, and, who, as speculative and symbolical Masons, carry on our work here, and hope to continue it hereafter under His all-seeing eye, and who have, as we hope, been more firmly strengthened in the belief since the day when our acknowledged trust in God brought us a partial admission to light; I say, to us, thus nourished and

strengthened in our faith, it seems as if a species of insanity had seized our erring brethren, and led them to repudiate so essential an element of Masonry. As Masons let us hope and earnestly pray that they may be brought to see the error of their views and humbly return wiser and better men to seek that light which they now so wilfully deny themselves."

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters occupy a considerable portion of the published proceedings, and show that the Order generally, is in a sound and healthy condition.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted forbidding the conferring of a higher degree on a brother at a less interval than one month from his receiving a previous degree, and in any case until he has passed a satisfactory examination in open Lodge.

A resolution was adopted and a committee appointed to take steps towards the organization of a temperance society in connection with the Craft. In our opinion temperance organizations in connection with the Masonic Order are useless and fruitless. Masonry teaches and enjoins the observance of all the virtues, and if a Mason is faithless to his Masonic duties and vows, he will not be greatly benefitted by a temperance organization.

Bro. A. H. Crowe, on behalf of the committee, furnishes the report on Foreign Correspondence, which covers eighty-two pages, and is an able and thorough review.

M. W. Bro. John W. Laurie was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Benjamin Curren was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 74; number of Masons, 3,424.

OHIO.

Grand Lodge held its sixty-ninth Annual Communication in Dayton, commencing October 15th, 1875, M. W. William M. Cunningham, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master is a business-like production, devoted to the details of his administration and of merely local interest. He speaks his mind freely, as the following extract relating to the compilation and publication of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1877, will show. He says:

"Complaint has been made by brethren in different parts of the State concerning the compilation of the printed proceedings of this Grand Body for 1877.

"As, upon examination, it will be found that the *so-called* printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year mentioned, contains so much matter

therein entirely foreign to the frequently expressed views of this Grand Body, that the title "Proceedings of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Ohio," is an evident misnomer. In this connection also, the injunction of personal opinions in the "head lines" of the daily transactions of this Grand Body, whilst it was in session, as on pages 38 and 39, the insertion of individual opinions of the compiler in vindication of his personal views upon questions heretofore settled by this Grand Lodge, and the compilation of matter contrary to its previously expressed views concerning bodies with which this Grand Body is not in communication, is a breach of Masonic etiquette that should not be permitted to pass unnoticed at my hands.

"The long and faithful service, however, of the Grand Officer entrusted by you with the duties of compilation, warrants me in the believing that it is only necessary to call his attention thereto, in this official manner, to prevent its repetition in the future."

Under the head of "Suggestions," we find the following:

"It is a very great mistake, although one often made, to suppose that the Annual Communications of Grand Lodge are for legislative purposes only, or that its legislation is of such mere routine character as to warrant hasty legislation, and the adoption of the reports of committees without due consideration upon their part or upon the part of the Grand Lodge. All of the evils that have ever befallen this Grand Lodge, and every pecuniary loss that has occurred to it within the past quarter of a century, are directly and distinctly traceable to hasty legislation; this is a matter of personal observation during a period of consecutive attendance upon the annual meetings of this Grand Body for nearly that time.

"The alacrity with which our generous-hearted brethren and Lodges have responded to the appeal for help made by our suffering brethren in the South is not only a matter of commendation, but it is a self-evident proof that the principles of ancient craft Masonry have "taken root in the hearts" of its initiates.

"In this connection it is perhaps fitting for me to state also—as a matter of just commendation thereof—that this Grand Lodge has ever maintained as high a standard of deliberative excellence, Masonic conservatism, and the recognition of the individual rights of its members, as attained by any other Masonic Grand Body of which I have any knowledge—and I have had the pleasure of visiting many both in this and in other States."

Recognition was granted to the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, but postponed as to Grand Lodges of Ontario and of Cuba.

The sum of \$5,238.86 was reported as disbursed to the yellow fever sufferers in sister jurisdictions.

Grand Master Cunningham was re-elected, as also Grand Secretary John D. Caldwell.

The Grand Lodge resolved to hold its next Annual Communication at Cincinnati.

The Grand Secretary (Bro. Caldwell) is an accomplished historian and statistician. The various tables accompanying the printed proceedings, and prepared by him, are very valuable, and evidently cost much labor, time and close and patient research. The report on Foreign Correspondence, by Bro. Caldwell, is short and general. The publishing of the report in full was omitted, and is thus excused by Bro. Caldwell:

"The loss of the entire funds of the Grand Lodge last year, seemed to justify the Grand Secretary as Chairman of Committee, in foregoing the pleasure of printing a report—mostly prepared—mainly historical, as to Masonry in New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Louisiana; also of Masons in San Domingo in connection with origin and progress of Accepted Rite, in both jurisdictions of the United States. Also a special preparation of the wonderful growth in production and wealth of the new States, and the various new Grand Lodges west of Ohio to the Pacific.

"The limit of 160 pages being set by myself as the most to be allowed this year, I requested of the M. W. G. Master to whom I was to report, to be allowed to omit my report altogether, and he was pleased to accede to my request.

"I received unmistakable evidences from the Grand Lodge at its recent session, and heretofore, of their approval and estimate of the value of my reports, and if the financial condition of the Grand Lodge had permitted, I would have considered it an honor to have made in my final report at this time, such a presentation of permanent value as would have been worthy of the confidence which has for so many years been reposed upon me, as an officer and historian. The increased number of valuable tables of historical local interest furnished, will I trust, be acceptable. Acknowledgment is made of reception of printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the United States, their names, dates of organization, their Grand Masters and Secretaries, times of meeting, number of Lodges and membership. These are tabulated in a Masonic Calendar."

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 475; number of Masons, 31,673.

OREGON.

Grand Lodge met at Portland, in its twenty-ninth Annual Communication, on 9th June, 1879, M. W. Robert Clow, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master relates almost entirely to local and routine matters. Among the decisions, we find the following:

"We have a petition for the degrees. The petitioner met with an accident some years since, whereby his right leg is seriously injured. He is a cripple for life, but gets along very well with the assistance of a cane. Can we confer the degrees upon him?

"Answer. No. To make a Mason of such a man, however worthy in other respects, would be in plain violation of the landmarks of Masonry.

"A brother has petitioned our Lodge for a dimit, and assigned as a reason that he could not and would not fellowship with the members of the Lodge. That he had difficulties that were not settled satisfactorily to himself by the Lodge. Can he be granted a dimit?

"Answer. No. The only reasons for which a brother can be dimitted are, first, removal from the jurisdiction of the Lodge of which he is a member; or secondly, for the purpose of affiliating with another Lodge having concurrent jurisdiction. Dissatisfaction with the action of the Lodge in any particular is not and cannot be made a pretext petition for a dimit."

Our Oregon brethren had an educational fund amounting to about \$18,000, invested in notes of various parties, with some of whom there was some trouble. Bro. Ainsworth, the owner of a majority of the shares of stock in the Masonic Temple Association of Portland, Oregon, in order to relieve the Grand Lodge of trouble, it seems, offered his said stock for the effects in the hands of the Committee on Education, and his offer was accepted with cordial thanks.

Rev. Bro. J. R. N. Bell was the Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge, and from his address we make the following extracts:

"The origin of Masonry is veiled in doubt, and has given rise to great speculation. I believe tradition will bear me out in saying that speculative Masonry was coeval with the apostolic age, and our patron, St. John, is said to have belonged to a society called the Essens (or Masons), and this society is claimed to have originated about forty years previous to the building of King Solomon's temple. And although it is claimed that these good men mentioned in the Bible belonged to the Essens, we do not claim that Masonry is a religion, in the sense that we distinguish one religious sect of to-day from another. Masonry is not even a substitute for religion—rather a co-laborer with that glorious work—and with it we may hope to rise to immortal glory and heaven.

"What, then, is Masonry? It is an important auxiliary agency, standing firmly at the Thermopylæ of the immortal world, to hold Satan's legions in check until religion shall have accomplished its heaven-designed work. It is

the inculcation of moral duty unto mankind; it is the search after truth, divine truth; it is the effort to make all who join the fraternity a "perfect and upright man and Mason;" it is a teacher of those sublime precepts, charity, love and benevolence. What wilder field, what higher principles than these three, bound by one tie, making the beauty of our Order shine forth and permeate all classes of society? It brings forth a true development of friendship; it brings men into companionships and relations calculated to draw out their sympathies and their better natures. Masonry, with its grand principles, teaches its votaries, be he Jew or Gentile, king or peasant, that all men are equal, and it is their mission and their duty to improve and benefit the whole human family."

Bro. S. F. Chadwick, for the committee, made an able report on Foreign Correspondence. The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for 1878 were not received, and hence not reviewed.

In his review of Missouri, he refers to the death of Bishop E. M. Marvin, who was, as Bro. Chadwick says, dearly beloved by many in Oregon. The people have been charmed by his eloquence in North Carolina as in Oregon. The sentiments expressed by Bro. Chadwick as to the deceased Bishop and brother, are in unison with those cherished by the people of North Carolina, irrespective of the church with which he was identified.

Bro. R. P. Earhart (Grand Secretary) was elected Grand Master, and Bro. I. W. Pratt was elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 71; number of Master Masons, 2,580.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Grand Lodge held its Annual Communication in Philadelphia, commencing December 27th, 1878, R. W. M. Nisbet, Deputy Grand Master, acting Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Lodge holds Quarterly Communications.

The Board of Almoners report that they had expended during the year, upon the needy, the sum of \$3,272, and lament the fact that the charity fund is not larger. They say:

"In the discharge of their duties the Almoners are not unfrequently brought in contact with poverty and destitution in their most distressing forms, and which appeal to their sympathies in the most touching manner. The aged mother, the widow and the orphans of our deceased brethren, many of whom during their lifetime were in comfortable, if not affluent circumstances, appeal alike to them for aid, but owing to the comparatively small amount at their dis-

posals, and the ever-increasing number of applicants, it is oftentimes impossible to grant more than the mere semblance of relief, and even this can only be granted at long intervals.

"This state of affairs can scarcely be called creditable to a body like the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and pertinently suggests the inquiry, Whether the wisdom and well-known generosity of the Grand Lodge cannot devise some means whereby the charity fund can be augmented, and a sum yearly placed in the hands of the Almoners for distribution, which at the same time shall reflect credit on the source from which it emanates, and prove a means of blessing to those whose necessities compel them to invoke our charity."

The Stewards of the "Stephen Girard Charity Fund" report that they had expended the sum of \$3,549. We notice that one needy brother, hailing from North Carolina, received fifteen dollars.

On account of sickness, the Grand Master (Porter) had not been able to attend to the duties of his office, since his election, and Deputy Master Nisbet assumed the station.

Bro. Nisbet was elected Grand Master. In his address, among many other good things, he says :

"For the benefit of all we will state that the following things to do which frequent permission is requested cannot be permitted :

"A Lodge cannot pass or raise any one not a member thereof.

"A Lodge cannot rescind a vote of suspension at a meeting subsequent to that at which it was adopted.

"A Lodge cannot take part in any procession or ceremonies that are not Masonic ones.

"A Lodge cannot ballot for all its officers at the same time.

"An alarm at the outer door cannot be answered except by permission of the Worshipful Master.

"A room in a building occupied by profanes cannot be dedicated to Masonic purposes, nor a building not owned by a Lodge.

"An officer of a Lodge cannot resign his office during the term for which he has been installed.

"A second ballot cannot be taken on a third petition for initiation and membership.

"A second vote cannot be taken on a resolution to permit a third petition for initiation and membership.

"There is one other subject to which we wish to call especial attention. That of Worshipful Masters inviting a brother to deliver a lecture to his Lodge, or at the request of a brother desirous of showing his knowledge, permitting him to lecture before the Lodge. No brother has the right to lecture before any Lodge without permission of the Grand Master, and hereafter all lectures are prohibited, and will be stopped, unless such permission is first obtained.

"The printing or publishing of any part of the proceedings of a Lodge are prohibited, and the brethren who in their anxiety to furnish an item for the newspapers to which they are attached, furnished for publication the vote at the late election in detail, are fraternally admonished not to repeat the offense."

In reference to a growing evil, the Grand Master well says:

"Preceding Grand Masters have lightly touched upon a growing evil, which, if persisted in, is calculated to sow dissension. I allude to the means resorted to by candidates for office in soliciting the support of these brethren, and the arguments made use of by their supporters to gain them votes. Real worth and fitness for a station in the Grand Lodge never passes unnoticed among as intelligent a body of men as compose it, and modest merit is sure to reap its reward. The personal appeal of an aspirant for office extolling his particular fitness for the station to which he aspires, indicates an over-estimate of himself in his own mind, and implies an obtuseness on the part of his brethren, not particularly complimentary to them. But a greater evil is the attempt to establish sectional lines, and to urge the claim of a candidate because he resides in a certain locality. Such an argument strikes at the very foundation upon which the superstructure of Freemasonry is built, and if persisted in must inevitably destroy the fundamental principles upon which the Craft rests. Masonry is universal, and no one locality can claim preference over another except for its more strict adherence to the immutable principles and landmarks of the fraternity, and we trust that every brother who has its interests at heart will cast aside any such unmasonic feeling in the future, and support only those who are eminently fitted to perform the duties of the several stations to which they are to be elevated, without regard to where they were born, where they live, or what Lodge they may be members of."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Bro. Richard Vaux, and is a succinct and able review of Masonic doings.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 552; number of members, 37,816.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, met at Charlottetown, on the 24th of June, 1879, M. W. John Yeo, Grand Master, presiding. Ten out of twelve subordinate Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master's address is short, and relates to details of his administration. In regard to the condition of his jurisdiction, he says:

"As will be seen by the returns of the different Lodges our numbers have slightly decreased.

"Hard times and depression in all kinds of business have no doubt been felt in Masonry as well as in all other institutions. These are matters over which we have no control, and whilst we may regret, still we should not be despondent, but look forward hopefully for more prosperous times. A large increase in membership is not always evidence of the real prosperity of a Lodge. It is better to increase slowly, by admitting only those who are known to be worthy, than in times of excitement to accept any whose admission we may afterwards have cause to regret."

Fraternal recognition had been received from several Grand Lodges. The Grand Lodge of Scotland extended its recognition, under certain restrictions (not mentioned in the proceedings), but our plucky little sister courteously but proudly declined to accept the same.

Very little business was transacted during the session. The receipts from all sources were reported to be \$329.90.

Grand Master John Yeo was re-elected for the fifth time. Bro. George W. Wakeford was elected Grand Secretary.

The statistics of the Grand Lodge are thus reported by the Grand Secretary :

"Number initiated, 26 ; passed, 29 ; raised, 33 ; affiliated, 12 ; suspended, non-payment of dues, 12 ; died, 3 ; dimitted, 24 ; whole number registered, 548 ; which shows a falling off of 18 members."

QUEBEC.

Grand Lodge met in its ninth Annual Communication on the 25th September, 1878, M. W. M. M. Tait, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master gives a full statement of the difficulties existing between his Grand Lodge and that of Scotland, and inveighs, with justifiable warmth, against the injustice done to Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The committee appointed to consider the difficulties with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in their report, say :

"The requests of this Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Scotland have not received even courteous acknowledgment, and the claims of this Grand Lodge, supported as they were by the forty-eight Grand Lodges who have acknowledged its lawful Masonic position, have not received proper and respectful consideration. And they further regret that in all attempts to approach the Lodges here, by the officers of this Grand Lodge and by the several committees appointed for the purpose, they have received the same

discourteous and unfraternal treatment. This Grand Lodge having exhausted all the means in its power to provide for an amicable and fraternal arrangement is now brought face to face with its duty to itself, to its sister Grand Lodges, and to the Craft throughout the world.

"Our authority has been set at naught and denied; our jurisdiction has been invaded by a foreign Grand Lodge; two Lodges have been established by the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the city of Montreal; a Provincial Grand Lodge under the same authority has been formed and a Provincial Grand Master installed to preside over it, who has issued a proclamation in which this Grand Lodge is styled "self-assumed" and its illegality asserted.

"Under these circumstances—under this great provocation—all its offers of fraternal intercourse and protection to these foreign Lodges, which existed here prior to the recent action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland having been rejected—it is surely time for this Grand Lodge, if it desires to maintain the respect of the Craft throughout the world—the esteem of its sister Grand Lodges—and the support and obedience of its own brethren—to assert and maintain the authority and discipline with which as a Grand Lodge it has been intrusted, and to proclaim and enforce, as far as possible, by all proper and lawful means, that no Lodge of Freemasons shall exist in the Province of Quebec which shall not own allegiance to the M. W. Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Quebec—obey the laws made by it for the government of Lodges and members of Lodges—and contribute its portion to the support of this Grand Lodge, and the relief of distressed brethren whether of our own jurisdiction, or who coming from other countries may be here in want and distress—and that all Lodges not acknowledging this allegiance, and giving this support and obedience to the Grand Lodge of Quebec shall be declared irregular and illegal Lodges, no matter by what authority they may assume to act.

"And the Board are convinced that the action of the Grand Lodge will receive the sympathy and support of every honorable Mason, and of all the Grand Lodges throughout the Masonic world."

Bro. W. Simpson Walker, for the committee, furnished the report on Foreign Correspondence, and did it well. The review of the proceedings of the various Grand Lodges is able, thorough and polished. The Grand Lodge of North Carolina receives complimentary mention, especially its grand enterprise, the "Orphan Asylum." Bro. Walker, in concluding his report, says:

"Our work is done, and we hope that the brethren will accept it as an honest performance of a duty which has devolved upon us. The work has, indeed, been such that we have derived much and valued information from the vast store-house that has been opened up to us.

"Though Masonry has decreased in numerical strength on this continent, it nevertheless has increased in its capacity for usefulness, and in those essential elements which tend to mould mankind in the "fatherhood of God" and the "brotherhood of men." Masonry never took a higher stand in its history than

it does to-day, never more truly prosperous, never more influential, never more studied—never doing a grander work for the relief of suffering humanity.”

Grand Master M. M. Tait, and Grand Secretary John H. Isaacson, were re-elected.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 64; initiated, 236; passed, 227; raised, 209; Masons, 2,873.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Grand Lodge met in its one hundredth and second Annual Communication, in Charleston, December 10th, 1878, M. W. B. W. Ball, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master is short, though well written and full. On the subject of “Masonic charity” he says:

“The mission of the Mason is to be derived from a close attention to the immemorial teachings of the Lodge room. The Grand Lodge is not a body organized to dispense charity; neither is the subordinate Lodge. It is the office of the latter to create the *Mason*, and the Mason has devolved upon him his duties and the character of his mission, in the Lodge room. The Mason himself assumes with that high title and name the office of dispensing to all mankind, and more especially his brother, Masonic charity in its largest sense—the broadest humanity, and a liberal regard for the frailties of his fellow man. Without brotherly love, as the chief corner-stone upon which the structure of Masonry is erected, the fabric must fall to the ground and the institution becomes a ruin. Tradition teaches and the archives of some of our oldest Lodges furnish evidence of the social features of the Lodge having at no distant day strongly characterized the gathering of those who have gone before us, and who meet upon the highest hills and lowest vales. Brotherly love and affection can surely be stimulated and encouraged by a greater regard to the social duties within the Lodge, without danger, from excessive conviviality. If Masonry is only to be a formal and technical tie—if it fails to make man dearer and draw him closer unto his fellow and brother, it dwarfs into a mere sham and name. Since then, the Lodge makes the Mason, if he fails to go forth from its sacred precincts to practice the precepts he must there receive, the halls of the Lodge room must necessarily become dead and lifeless walls; if the social features and social virtues are therein cultivated and made brighter and to glow, the Lodge will have fulfilled its mission—and its creature, man, become that smooth and perfect ashlar his Creator intended him.”

And in regard to harmony in the Lodge, he well says:

“An experience of more than twenty-five years leads to the conclusion that one of the unfailing stumbling blocks to the Lodge is debt and financial embarrass-

ment. A new Lodge is chartered; brethren assume the task of undertaking to build Lodge rooms; Lodge furniture is bought, and rentals are contracted to be paid, based upon calculations of work in the future, and other fortunate contingencies. The result is inevitable, that members become disheartened, the institution suffers, Masonry languishes. Again it not unfrequently happens that in a financial strait the brethren are tempted to restore their prosperity, by the introduction of improper material, and the consequences to our beloved institution (which has survived all the shocks to which man's institutions are exposed) are still dangerous and to be avoided. Another frequent and inevitable barrier to the harmony and prosperity of the Lodge is the failure to enforce the prompt payment of Lodge dues. This matter is frequently referred to, but cannot be too strongly insisted upon. A brother, hitherto prompt, neglects to pay his annual dues; indulgence follows. Another brother follows his example; the dues accumulate; the question of erasure follows. Brethren cease to take interest—begin to fall off—and a fatal check is given to the growth and prosperity of the Lodge."

The Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's reports show receipts to have been \$10,585.55, disbursements \$10,723.80.

In obedience to a request made at the Grand Lodge, session of 1877, M. W. Bro. Wilmot G. De Saussure, P. G. M., delivered a historical address on Freemasonry of South Carolina. The address is printed in an appendix to the published proceedings and is an able and polished production, showing close and discriminating research and an abundant fund of historical and Masonic knowledge. At the conclusion of the address, he summarizes as follows:

"The first Lodge constituted in South Carolina was Solomon's Lodge, No. 1 on 28th October, 1736.

"A Provincial Grand Lodge was constituted some time between that date and 20th August, 1737.

"Such Provincial Grand Lodge is traceable in the Gazettes until 1743, when probably for the reasons assigned by Bro. Mackey, it disappears until 1754. When it re-appears in that year, it does so with some of the same officers as were found in it in 1743. It is then, with occasional hiatus, traced until 1774.

"In 1776 it is found summoned by "order of the Grand Lodge," and desiring the attendance of all brethren throughout *this State*.

"In 1777 it installed Barnard Elliott as Grand Master of Masons in this State. In October, 1778, his funeral is attended by the Society of Freemasons, of which he was Grand Master.

"A silence then occurs until December, 1781, when it is again summoned as the Provincial Grand Lodge (South Carolina then being overrun by the British troops), and John Deas is elected as Provincial Grand Master.

"In 1783 the same body re-appears as the Grand Lodge of the State, and John Deas is elected Grand Master.

"From 1783 to 1817 it continues to be found, although from 1787 to 1817, there is also a rival Grand Lodge.

"In 1817 there is an union of these rival Grand Lodges on the same principles which governed in Massachusetts in 1792, and in England in 1813.

"From 1817 to this date, it has continued with its united rival, as the Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina.

"This appears to be such a connection and continuance with the Grand Lodge constituted in 1737, as to entitle it to claim 1737 as the date of the organization of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

"It was the legitimate successor of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and became independent in December, 1776, according to the principles laid down by eminent Masonic authorities.

"I therefore, respectfully claim that the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina, is in continuous succession, the second in rank of the Grand Lodges of the United States, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts alone outranking it.

"And I further claim that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was the first independent Grand Lodge on the continent of North America."

The report furnished by Bro. Inglesby, Grand Secretary, on Foreign Correspondence, is a good one. —

Bro. Augustine T. Smythe, of Charleston, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. Charles Inglesby, of Charleston, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Chartered Lodges, 182 ; Lodges represented, 156 ; number Master Masons, 6,531.

TENNESSEE.

Grand Lodge met in its sixty-fifth Annual Communication in Nashville, November 11th, 1878, M. W. Americus V. Warr, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master, after referring in touching terms to the death of John Fletcher Slover, P. D. G. M., Andrew Jackson Wheeler, G. P. M., and others, who died martyrs to their attempts to relieve the sufferings of those whom the yellow fever scourge attacked, he says of them :

"War makes heroes; this dread pestilence has made these brethren martyrs.

"Grand heroes of the fever,
How silently you trod the path of death !
Bidding farewell forever
To friends, and homes, you sought the poisonous breath
That floats in desolation
Through cabin windows and through palace doors,
Spares neither age nor station,
And mocks at science as it spreads its spores.

"He who in darkness hideous
Enters a horrid cavern full of fright,
Descends a path insidious,
And leaves all hope behind him with the light,
Displays no greater daring
Than those who seek the fever in its den,
To front a foe unsparing,
And give their lives to save their fellow-men.

"No form will shine more whitely
About the glorious throne of heaven than yours ;
No names are writ more brightly
Upon the page which deathless life secures.
Grand is the simple story
That tells your fight and most heroic fall—
Yours is the truest glory."

The Grand Master also gratefully refers to the sympathy manifested by the Masonic brethren of the Northern States with the yellow fever sufferers. He says :

"This met a hearty and generous response.

"So pressing and urgent were the demands of our Northern brethren that we should permit them to help us, that I appointed Brother John Frizzell, Grand Secretary, the custodian and distributor of the funds—as to which I was consulted—that were so generously pouring in upon us. The charitable hands of our Northern brethren were wide open, and pecuniary aid was showered in upon us until we were compelled to say, Hold, enough !

"This generous, unsought, but needed outpouring of their funds to help us in our time of sore distress, will do more to heal up the old scars of war than all the buncombe speeches of a decade. This united North for the relief of a sick and fever-stricken South will and must convince us that we are one people, having one country and one common duty—to preserve it in its purity and transmit it to our children the same—one and indivisible Union. After helping all who seemed to need it, there is left in the hands of the custodian a considerable sum, which he proposes to distribute among the Lodges in the infected districts, to enable them to help the widows and orphans made such by the pestilence. The report of the custodian of his receipts and disbursements and amount on hand is herewith submitted, and I ask that the Grand Lodge order the same printed with its proceedings. I also herewith submit a report as to the disposition of the funds which came into my hands.

"May God bless each and all of our brethren everywhere who have so nobly helped us in this our time of affliction !"

The Grand Master seems to have been troubled with a great many questions unnecessarily submitted for his decision, and he thus suggests a remedy for what he considers a growing evil. He says :

"On this subject I would recommend that an edict be passed excusing the Grand Master from answering any question unless it comes from a Lodge or under Lodge seal. The correspondence of the Grand Master is necessarily voluminous, and to be forced to answer all conceivable questions of individual members of the Order is burdensome."

The Grand Lodge held a Lodge of Sorrow, on November 12th, 1878, to the memory of the late A. J. Wheeler, P. G. M., and to the dead of the past year. Henry J. Lynn, P. M., delivered an interesting and eloquent address on the "Life, Masonic Character and Death of A. J. Wheeler, P. G. M." James D. Richardson, P. G. M., also delivered an address on "Our Dead," appropriate, touching and eloquent.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer show the receipts to have been \$6,194.15, amount on hand at last report \$7,298.43; disbursements \$8,678.41.

The sum of \$24,183.70 was contributed through the Grand Secretary for the benefit of the yellow fever sufferers in Tennessee.

George C. Connor, of Chattanooga, was elected Grand Master, and John Frizzell was re-elected Grand Secretary.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 500; number of Master Masons, 17,053; decrease over 1877, 883.

TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge met in its forty-third Annual Communication, at Houston, on 12th December, 1878, M. W. Norton Moses, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master's address records the death of two Past Grand Masters, Samuel Mather and J. D. Giddings, and the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, J. P. Likens. Dispensations were granted for the organization of eleven new Lodges. The charters of three Lodges were arrested. The address relates principally to matters of local interest and routine details.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows receipts for the year to have been \$17,461.82, balance on hand from last year \$4,182.20, and disbursements \$22,301.57.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held during the session of the Grand Lodge in memory of those who had died during the year, at which an appropriate and impressive address was delivered by Past Grand Master Mott.

A special committee appointed to consider the practicability of establishing an "Orphans' Home," reported adversely to the support of an Asylum by the

Grand Lodge. As a substitute for such an enterprise the committee (majority) report as follows:

"There are eighteen thousand Masons belonging to Lodges, and subject to taxation, in Texas. Let a tax of twenty-five cents be assessed for a Grand Lodge Orphans' fund, to be distributed each year as it is collected. If found valuable and efficient and a larger fund is required, it may be increased. If found more than adequate, as it is quite possible it will be, it may be diminished. This will yield \$4,500 a year.

"Now let it be understood that each Lodge takes charge of its own orphans, and provides for their education and sustenance as it may be best. There is not a county in the State where orphan children may not be maintained and educated at a cost of sixty to seventy-five dollars a year; and in such circumstances, and with such surroundings as the Lodges may consider fit. Let it also be understood that the Grand Lodge will pay from this fund one-half the cost of supporting such orphans to the extent of thirty-five dollars each per year, upon the certificate of the executive committee of the Lodge, that an equal amount has been expended by the Lodge. We have here provision for one hundred and thirty orphans upon a plan that is simple, practicable, and that involves the expenditure of not a single dollar that does not go directly to the object, and that does not do the most good possible.

"If it should be deemed inexpedient to levy a per capita tax of twenty-five cents, then, after the debts of the Grand Lodge are paid, let so much of the revenue of the Grand Lodge as is contemplated by the report of the Chairman of the Committee, be annually set apart and distributed in the manner proposed.

"By this plan the Grand Lodge will be saved (1) a cumbersome piece of machinery, (2) the investment of a large sum of money, and (3) a bone of contention. And it will at once begin to feed, and clothe, and educate its orphans, whilst under the other plan many years must elapse before any practical good can be obtained."

Others (of the minority) on the "Orphans' Home" make a minority report, in which they set forth the correspondence had with other Grand Lodges in relation to the history and condition of orphan asylums established by them. In such correspondence we notice letters from our worthy Grand Secretary, Bro. Bain, and our noble Superintendent, Bro. Mills. The letter of the latter in reply to the committee, is a characteristic one, and full of the rugged good sense for which he is so widely noted. The minority report contains the following proposals:

"1st. So change the Constitution that the "Texas Masonic Orphans' Home" shall become a recognized part of our system.

"2d. To adopt so much of the present system as will serve our purpose and only make such changes as are necessary.

"3d. To accumulate funds until the annual revenues, which can be spent for that purpose, will be sufficient to support a small establishment at least.

"4th. Not to make the Institution odious by levying burdens upon the members or subordinate Lodges, but to confine ourselves to the present resources of the Grand Lodge, with such help as we may be able to obtain from the free-will offerings of our Craft, and other benevolent persons.

"5th. In locating the Home, we should select a farm of not less than 160 acres, in a healthy section of the State; and in order to get one on the best terms possible, we should direct the Trustees to advertise for bids and donations.

"6th. That the Home should be made, as far as possible, self-sustaining by the moderate labor of the beneficiaries, according to their ability.

"7th. That we do not deem it advisable to spend large sums of money in expensive buildings, but prefer to begin on a small scale, and increase our facilities as occasion may justify, and extend our usefulness as our circumstances will permit."

The consideration of the reports on the Orphans' Home were deferred until the session of 1879, whose proceedings we have not yet received. We await, with anxiety, intelligence as to the action of the Grand Lodge, and hope that an Asylum or "Home" has been established.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was furnished by Bro. E. H. Cushing, for the Committee, the Chairman, Bro. Likens, having died during the year and before the preparation of the report. Though Bro. Cushing prepared the report hurriedly, he did it well.

Bro. John B. Jones was elected Grand Master, and Bro. George H. Bringhurst was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of chartered Lodges, 499; number of Lodges U. D., 7; number of Masons, 17,340.

VIRGINIA.

Met in St. Albans Hall, Richmond, 9th December, 1878.

Grand Master, B. R. Wellford, Jr.; Grand Secretary, W. B. Isaacs.

The Grand Master's address is well written, dignified and graceful, defines the extent to which Masonry is a religious institution; rejoices in the immunity which the jurisdiction of Virginia had during the year from the ravages of war, pestilence and famine, and contrasts the immunity with the desolation that fell upon the fever-stricken districts of the South, which was not inconsiderably relieved by the illumination of deeds of moral heroism and Christian charity, in its highest and noblest manifestation, which find few parallels in the normal history of human life. The Grand Master alludes to the fact that among those who fell victims to the terrible plague while ministering to the

relief of their fellow men, were two Past Masters of his Lodge—Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4—"the venerable old Lodge at whose altar George Washington first received Masonic light."

The address mentions the following decisions as having been made during the year :

"1st. That it is not mandatory upon a subordinate Lodge to exact fees for the degrees from every applicant, and that it is lawful to remit in advance, or, if paid without such action in advance, to return the fees.

"2d. That the loss of the use of one eye did not render a candidate ineligible.

"3d. That a Lodge could not compel a Brother to testify in any Masonic trial when he stated that his only information about the matter was received under the pledge of Masonic confidence.

"4th. That a member of a Lodge removing to another jurisdiction without announcing his withdrawal from the Lodge, or asking a dimit, continues liable to assessment for Lodge dues and to the penalty for non-payment.

"5th. That after the rejection of a petition, and the lapse of time within which such petition may be renewed, the Lodge cannot act upon the old petition, but the applicant must present a new petition.

"6th. That a member of a Lodge cannot prefer charges against his Lodge. His remedy is an appeal from the action of the Lodge. If he complain of inaction, he has the right, and it is his duty, to ask action of his Lodge, and to make matter of record its refusal to act, and upon such refusal to appeal.

"7th. That in matters of disputed jurisdiction, the distance by air line, and not by the usual road, is to be the guide. This I understand to be the order of the Grand Lodge. Grand Master Owens so decided, and his decision was approved, but one of the committees which had the matter under consideration, recommended an amendment of the law. See Proceedings 1871, page 11, and Proceedings 1872, page 46. I think that some amendment of the law is wise and necessary."

The Grand Master compliments the excellent Grand Secretary upon the manner in which his office, papers, &c., are arranged, and his work performed, commends the establishment in Richmond of a Masonic Library, and thus refers to the centennial year of the Grand Lodge of Virginia :

"One hundred years ago, in the month of October, 1778, the Representatives of four Lodges assembled in the city of Williamsburg to inaugurate the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The spontaneous choice of the Craft for the office of Grand Master was none other than George Washington; but the imperious necessities of the war required his continued absence in the field, and the desire of the Brethren could not be gratified. The choice then fell upon John Blair, one of the first appointed Judges of the United States Supreme Court. During the remaining score of years of the century, he was succeeded in the Grand East

by James Mercer, a Judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia; Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia, and Attorney-General and Secretary of State of the United States during the administration of General Washington; John Marshall, the world-renowned Chief Justice of the United States; and Robert Brooke, Governor of Virginia.

"These, my Brethren, were the Fathers of Virginia Masonry, and the Elder Brothers of all the children of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Have we not a right to gather around her with filial pride and count the jewels which sparkle in her diadem?"

During the year the Grand Lodge lost two Past Grand Masters, John Robin McDaniel and Thomas Flint Owens. We cannot omit the following beautiful description of the character of P. G. M. Owens, contained in the report of W. A. S. Taylor, Chairman of the Committee on his death :

"Besides these more eminent endowments, he was not wanting in those amiable qualities which endear their possessor to the heart of humanity. Like the Corinthian column of massive strength, adorned with a richness of ornament, all the manlier elements of his character were crowned with the attractive graces of gentleness, urbanity, affection, and an equanimity of temper that rarely lost its harmonious play amid the trying and rasping circumstances of life. He deemed no sacrifice of personal ease or comfort too great when a friend was to be served. 'Unaffected good nature beamed in his eye; the kindness of his heart spoke in every word and shone in every look, and encircled his countenance with a halo of cheerfulness.' Asperity was softened, and detraction lost its edge in the contemplation of the loveliness of his character, and nothing but words of respect and veneration ever reached his ear. He moved among men as a light, shedding joy and gladness around him, his noble heart beating in sweetest rhythm when heaviest taxed by the offices of friendship and charity."

A monument costing \$1,250 was erected to the venerable Grand Secretary, John Dove, and was unveiled during the session of the Grand Lodge with appropriate ceremonies.

The report of the Committee on the Masonic Temple Association makes a gratifying exhibit and encourages the hope that at no distant day the plan of erecting a Temple creditable to the Craft and ornamental to the city, will be realized. The report shows property in possession of the Association valued at \$76,322.80.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported as follows :

"The following resolution of enquiry has been referred to the committee :

"*Resolved*, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence enquire into and report whether or not it is proper for a subordinate Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction to retain in its by-laws an article authorizing the dropping from the

roll of members for non-payment of dues, or for other causes; and if so, to define the Masonic standing of such of member or members dropped from the roll.

"The Committee are unanimously of the opinion that it is not proper for a subordinate Lodge to have or retain in its by-laws an article of the character referred to in said resolution. In the opinion of the Committee, that mode of terminating the relation of membership in a Lodge is not authorized by the laws of this Grand Lodge or sanctioned by Masonic usage."

The report of the Grand Secretary shows that there are 236 subordinate Lodges, 9,358 members, to which add 572 estimated membership of Lodges making no returns, and the total estimated affiliation is 9,930. The Grand Treasurer's report shows receipts to be \$4,512.65, amount in arrears \$1,519.50.

The salary of the Grand Secretary was increased, on the recommendation of the Grand Master, to \$1,200 per annum.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence covers seventy-one pages, is methodical, full, critical and in some places witty, and is furnished by W. F. Drinkard, Chairman.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Grand Lodge held its twenty-second Annual Communication at Olympia, commencing June 4th, 1879, M. W. James R. Hayden, P. G. M., presiding in the absence of the Grand Master, E. P. Ferry, who, being Governor of the Territory, was required to be elsewhere on official business.

The Grand Lodges of New Mexico and New South Wales were granted fraternal recognition.

The following resolutions were adopted:

"*Resolved by the Grand Lodge of Washington*, That any Lodge within this jurisdiction may, at a stated communication, elect any Master Mason, who has been a member in good standing for a term not less than twenty years, an honorary member of such Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That all honorary members shall be relieved from the payment of Lodge dues, and the subordinate Lodges from the payment of Grand Lodge dues for such members.

"*Resolved, furthermore*, That no Lodge in this jurisdiction shall be required to pay Grand Lodge dues upon indigent Masons who are supported at the expense of the Lodge."

Bro. Oliver Perry Lacy, of Walla Walla, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. Thomas Milburne Reed, of Olympia, was elected Grand Secretary. Bro. Reed, as Chairman of the Committee, furnished an excellent report on Foreign Correspondence.

STATISTICS.

Number of chartered Lodges, 29; number of Lodges U. D., 1; number of Masons, 953; total receipts during the year, \$2,531.75.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The Grand Lodge held its fourteenth Annual Communication at Wheeling, commencing November 12th, 1878, George Baird, Grand Master, presiding. Seventy-four of seventy-six working Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master's address referring to the condition of Masonry in West Virginia, says :

"While, in all probability, the returns from our several Lodges will not show any increase in membership during the past year, yet we have abundant cause for thankfulness. Masonry does not depend for her prosperity, on members alone. So far as known to your Grand Master, peace and harmony have prevailed throughout this jurisdiction; the several Lodges have endeavored to conduct their proceedings in the true spirit of Masonry, and their members have enjoyed a degree of health and happiness, which has not been exceeded during any preceding year in your history. Your presence here to-night, representing nearly all of the Lodges in this State, shows that the friends of Masonry have not abated in the least in their devotion to her cause, and it is hoped that when this Communication is closed, your coming together will prove to have been for the good of the entire Order."

Of the frequency with which questions of but little importance and previously decided, are referred to the Grand Master for his decision, he says :

"If some general regulation was adopted in reference to communications sent to the Grand Master, on questions of Masonic law and usage, that officer could be saved a large amount of trouble and the office of Grand Master made much more desirable. He is called on so frequently to decide questions, which a reasonable familiarity with Masonic law would settle beyond cavil, that the position of Grand Master has become somewhat burdensome. Many of the questions asked should first be presented to the W. M. of the Lodge, and if his answers are not satisfactory, or if the subject matters involved in the question are deemed of sufficient importance, they could be forwarded by the Secretary of the Lodge, and the reply of the Grand Master could be entered on the record of the Lodge, for future reference.

"These remarks are not made in any complaining spirit by your present Grand Master, as it has been his aim to answer promptly all communications sent him, during his term of office. The only object in view is to call your attention to an evil which is increasing every year, and to try to make the cares of office less for my successors."

Among the decisions reported are the following:

"An E. A. or F. C., rejected on an application for advancement can again apply at the next or any subsequent stated communication of the Lodge which rejected him, also that the rejection does not exclude him from the Lodge, when opened on the degree to which he had advanced.

"An E. A. or F. C. proving himself thoroughly proficient on examination, if rejected on his application for advancement, cannot *demand* that a charge be preferred against him. It would be but just to him as a *younger brother* to give him an opportunity to defend himself, but he has no right to demand it.

"A petition which has been received by a Lodge and laid over one month, must be ballotted on. The W. M. has no right to refuse the brethren an opportunity to ballot and of his own motion return to the petitioner his deposit.

"It is unnecessary for a Lodge to have a dispensation from the Grand Master to remove from one room to another in the place named in its charter

"The record of a Lodge, when approved and signed, should be taken as proof of the standing of a member of the Lodge, in preference to the recollections of individual members of the Lodge.

"A Lodge cannot confer a degree as far as the lecture, then close and give the lecture at a subsequent communication. A degree once commenced, must be finished before the Lodge is closed.

"A resident of a city or town in this State, in which more than one Masonic Lodge is located, wishing to present a petition to a Lodge where he may be temporarily residing, must obtain a waiver of jurisdiction from all the Lodges at his permanent home. Their jurisdiction in this case is a concurrent one and neither he nor the Lodge to which he wishes to present his petition can select one of the Lodges and make application to it alone for a waiver of jurisdiction."

Grand Master George Baird was re-elected, as also, Grand Secretary O. S. Long.

Bro. O. S. Long, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a verbal and general report, and obtained permission to prepare and print as an appendix to the proceedings, a review of the various Grand Lodges whose printed proceedings had been received. In a note, however, he says:

"Since the close of the Grand Lodge, I have not had a single hour that I could devote to the conclusion of the review referred to, and so, rather than delay to an indefinite period the publication of the proceedings, I have concluded that it is best to consign the whole review to the "rubbish" and hope for better luck next time. It is a game of "double or quits," with a strong preponderance in favor of the "quits," but West Virginia is still inclined to say her say."

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 76; number of Masons, 3,385.

WISCONSIN.

Grand Lodge held its thirty-fifth Annual Communication at Milwaukee, on 10th June, 1879, M. W. Charles F. G. Collins, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master, in his address, records the death of Bro. Joshua Britton, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge, who was held in affectionate esteem by the Masons of his jurisdiction. The decisions reported are upon questions that have been frequently decided or which relate to the constitution and regulations of Masonry in Wisconsin. In the conclusion of his address, the Grand Master eloquently says :

"Brethren of the Grand Lodge, we should ever see to it that our Masonry is something more than a name ; that our teachings, our solemn ceremonies and beautiful symbolismes are not mere forms, not like a stake driven in the ground, putting forth neither roots nor branches, but rather like some glorious tree, stretching deep into the earth and putting forth branches, leaves, and in its seasons fruit to gladden, and shelter and protect.

"Built upon the foundations of everlasting truth, our institution has withstood the test of ages and defied the attacks of ignorance and superstition, as the granite defies the wind and wave. But we must see to it that every shadow of an attempt to follow the so-called "liberal" tendencies of the age, as evinced by our misguided brethren in France, be frowned down and stamped out, and the beautiful, simple teachings of our fathers adhered to unimpaired and undiminished, not "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," but Faith in God—Hope in immortality, and Charity broad and deep to reach the cry of the helpless and distressed everywhere. The world knows of us only by our professions and public acts, and it is due to the honor and dignity of the institution that those we place in prominent positions should be something more than "good fellows," or glib ritualists. Let the men you honor with positions in your Lodges be men of worth, who command respect in other positions in life however humble, and we will ever be entitled to the respect of those who are not numbered with us."

A jewel and apron were presented to Past Grand Master P. C. Cottrill as a token of the esteem in which he was held by the Grand Lodge and of their appreciation of his services. Bro. Woodhull, in making the presentation, among other handsome things, said :

"During your long administration you may have committed some errors,—it would be strange indeed if you had not, but we all know full well, that if you did err it was an error of judgment ; your heart was right, your soul overflowing with love for the fraternity, laboring in season and out of season, even to the detriment of your health and your business, to promote the welfare of your brethren. Freemasonry, like every other human institution, needs a strong hand, a clear head and a loving heart at the helm. Possessing all these quali-

fications, you made in your administration as Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, a record of which not only you but all of us may well be proud.

"My brother, your brethren, appreciating your labors, directed me to procure and present to you a token of their love and esteem. I therefore present you this Past Grand Master's jewel, not as gifts are usually bestowed, but as a token of our appreciation of your past services, and an emblem of our love for you as a man and brother. Please to accept with it, my brother, the best wishes of the whole 11,000 Masons of the State of Wisconsin."

Resolutions were adopted disapproving of the action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland towards the Grand Lodge of Quebec, refusing to extend any recognition of either of the Grand Lodges in Cuba, recognizing the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and postponing the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

A Grand Lodge of Sorrow was held in memory of Rev. Bro. Joshua Britton, Grand Chaplain, at which an impressive and eloquent address was delivered by Past Grand Master Cottrill.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, among other questions submitted to them, had the following, on which they reported as follows :

"1st. Has a Lodge the right and the power to summon a brother to sit up or watch with a sick brother when requiring such attendance ?

"2d. If a Lodge has such a right, has it also the right or power to discipline a brother for refusing to obey such a summons ?

"We hope for the honor of Wisconsin Masonry that no case has arisen to render these questions necessary. It is to be hoped that no one who has been admitted to the circle of our brotherhood would refuse to minister to the needs of a sick brother, so far as his ability would permit. While such is clearly the duty of a brother, we do not think a Lodge has the right by its summons to peremptorily order a member to the bed side of another under penalty of suspension or expulsion."

Grand Master Charles F. G. Collins was re-elected, and also Grand Secretary John W. Woodhull.

Bro. Woodhull, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made an excellent report, though North Carolina did not receive any notice, the reason being, no doubt, that the proceedings of our Grand Lodge had not been received at the time of writing his report.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 188 ; number of Masons, 10,581.

WYOMING.

Grand Lodge held its fourth Annual Communication at Rawlin, commencing 8th October, 1878, M. W. Orlando North, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master's address is short and business-like, and reports harmony and good feeling prevailing throughout the jurisdiction.

The Grand Lodge having been taken to task by the Grand Lodge of Colon for its recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, re-affirmed its position and said, through resolutions, that in its opinion, the Grand Lodge of Cuba had been regularly organized.

But little business was transacted by the Grand Lodge, other than attention to the usual routine matters.

An able and exhaustive report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by Bro. William G. Tonn, Chairman of the Committee.

Bro. James H. Hayford was elected Grand Master, and Bro. William G. Tonn was re-elected Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges, 5 ; number of Masons, 312.

CONCLUSION.

Our work is done. It was greater than we anticipated, and required more time and labor than those who have never undertaken the task would estimate.

The writer is not a gentleman of leisure ; if he were, the report would have been certainly completed at an earlier date, and perhaps, would have been more presentable in appearance.

Mrs. Scott Siddons, in apologizing for her tardy appearance, said to an audience here the other night, that having just arrived on the train, with no time for food or rest, she had but little time to make her toilet, "and every lady knows," said she, "that half an hour is not enough to make a toilet."

The writer has been hurried, delayed and impeded by various circumstances ; he has had but "half an hour" to do his work, but if it could look half as well as Mrs. Siddons in her hurried toilet, or be received with half the admiration that the famous reader won, the writer could not even dream of a better reception for his report.

R. T. GRAY,

For Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

RALEIGH, N. C.

Standing Committees of Grand Lodge.

JURISPRUDENCE:

THOMAS S. KENAN, P. D. G. M.,..... WILSON.
EDWIN G. READE, P. G. M.,..... RALEIGH.
FABIUS H. BUSBEE, P. M.,..... RALEIGH.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE:

ROBERT T. GRAY,..... RALEIGH.
JOHN B. NEATHERY, P. M.,..... RALEIGH.
ROBERT W. HARDIE, P. S. G. W.,..... FAYETTEVILLE.

CREDENTIALS:

THOMAS C. WORTH,..... RALEIGH.
S. H. SMITH,..... WINSTON.
N. B. BROUGHTON,..... RALEIGH.